

# Pathway to Parliament: a handbook for Cook Islands Women

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## Extract: Section 3

English Version

### Nominations

#### ***As an Independent***

*To stand as an independent candidate you will need to be nominated by **two** enrolled electors in your constituency.*

*A form called a **Candidate Nomination Paper** will need to be completed and signed by you as the nominee **and** the two enrolled electors who are nominating you. The Candidate Nomination Paper is known as Form 5 in the Electoral Act and can be obtained at the Office of the Chief Electoral Officer.*

*You can only consent to **one** nomination per election. If you have been nominated twice, the Chief Electoral Officer is obliged to accept the **first** nomination received only.*

***Nomination Day** will be 10 days after the day on which the main rolls are closed for a general election or for a by-election. The Candidate Nomination Paper **must be delivered before 12pm midday** to the place named in the public notice on nomination day.*

*Every candidate must deposit \$500 with the Returning Officer by 12pm on nomination day. The deposit can only be paid in the form of cash, money order, bank draft, or bank cheque, meaning no credit or debit card or electronic payments. This deposit is refundable. However, if a candidate receives **less than a quarter** of the number of votes received by the successful candidate at the election, the deposited is forfeited and paid into the Cook Islands Government Account.*

*The Returning Officer will reject the nomination of a candidate if the nomination paper is not signed properly or not lodged before noon on nomination day, if the candidate's deposit is not paid, or if the Returning Officer reasonably suspects that a candidate has consented for nomination in a constituency where she is not registered as an elector.*

*Disputes over registration will ultimately be settled by the High Court of the Cook Islands if they are not resolved earlier with the Chief Electoral Officer.*

*Any candidate nominated can also withdraw their nomination before midday on Nomination Day by completing and lodging a Form 6 (Withdrawal of Nomination) to the Returning Officer. Their deposit will be refunded if the Returning Officer accepts the Withdrawal of Nomination.*

*In a situation where only one candidate is nominated for a constituency, then that candidate will be deemed to have been duly elected and will be publicly declared elected by the Chief Electoral Officer.*

#### Checklist for an independent Candidate

<b>Candidate Nomination Paper</b> Signed by registered electors	Two registered electors	By 12pm on the last day of nominations
Lodge fees	No credit/debit cards or electronic payments	By 12pm on the last day of nominations

## **Nominating as a Party candidate**

To be selected as a candidate for a party you will first need to qualify according to the rules of the Party that you wish to represent.

### **Cook Islands Party Qualification**

To become a candidate for the Cook Islands Party you must first be a paid up financial member of the Cook Islands Party in any constituency. Under the Cook Islands Party rules you must also have been loyal member to the Party continuously for a minimum of five (5) years. You must also be “highly regarded for leadership qualities in the activities of the Party, in the community, the church or in business”...and be “keenly determined through hard work and commitment to win the seat”.<sup>1</sup>

The benchmark for these qualities is not specified in the CIP constitution but decided by the CIP constituency committee.

You must meet the eligibility requirements of the Electoral Act. You must also be fluent in **both** Cook Islands Maori and English languages and have the support of the party members of the electorate in which you wish to stand. You will also be required to lodge a minimum of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) to the Party’s Director of Finance prior to selection by the constituency.

Selection of candidates is done at the constituency level. The constituency committee in each constituency will call for a meeting to select a candidate no less than thirty days **before** Nominations Day. Nominations must be in writing, accepted by the nominee, signed by at least two (2) financial members of the party in that constituency and received by the Constituency Committee Secretary at least 24 hours prior to the meeting. Only members who have been members in that constituency for six months or more and who are eligible to vote in the election under the Electoral Act, can vote to select a candidate at the meeting.

If you are selected as a candidate by the Cook Islands Party you must then proceed to lodge a **Candidate Nomination Paper** that must also include the signature of the President of the party.

### **Cook Islands Democratic Party Qualification**

Only a paid up financial member of the Cook Islands Democratic Party (CIDP) will qualify for nomination as a candidate for the Constituency in which they are registered as an elector. All nominations have to be made in writing to the Constituency Committee, contain the consent of the nominee and be supported by **at least five** (5) electors that are financial members of the Party in the Constituency that the nominee wishes to be the candidate for<sup>2</sup>.

According to the CIDP rules, the Democratic Party Committee for that Constituency **may** set out a nomination form to be used but **must** give public notice of the place, date and time fixed for receiving nominations of candidates for the Constituency concerned together with a meeting place, date and time fixed for electing a successful candidate to represent the Party.

The Constituency Committee **may** also set out conditions for accepting nominations that the nominee **must** accept in writing. Those conditions might include paying a nomination fee to be set by the Constituency Committee; agreeing to support the winning candidate for the Constituency and not opposing to the winning candidate; agreeing to comply with all of the requirements and conditions set by the Party for candidates contesting the election. Voting to select the candidate is carried out

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<sup>1</sup> Cook Islands Party Constitution October 2009 Part7 Clause 25(1) (a) and (c)

<sup>2</sup> Cook Islands Democratic Party Constitution Clauses 17 and 19

by the financial members of the constituency by secret ballot if there is more than one nominee. The Party will endorse only one candidate for each Constituency.

Once a candidate has been selected, the Party and the candidate will sign and seal an **Agreement of Party Affiliation** that will set out the terms and conditions of the candidate's formal endorsement by the Party. The candidate will then be entitled to all of the support and campaign assistance available to all candidates of the Party.

If you are selected as a candidate by the CI Democratic Party you must then proceed to lodge a **Candidate Nomination Paper** that must also include the signature of the President of the party.

#### Checklist for a Party Candidate

Action	Note	Timeline
Party selection as a candidate and lodge fees	Nomination by the correct number of members who are eligible to nominate	According to the Party rules
<b>Candidate Nomination Paper</b> Signed by registered electors	Two registered electors	By 12pm on the last day of nominations
Lodge fees	No credit/debit cards or electronic payments	By 12pm on the last day of nominations

#### Maori Version

### Au `iki`anga

#### Tūranga Tū-Anake

Ko te tū `ei mema no te tūranga Tū-anake, ka anoano `ia koe kia `iki`ia mai ē tēta`i nga tokorua tangata tei rētita `ia ki roto rāi i tō`ou tu`anga- `iki`anga.

Ka anoano `ia koe `ē te ngā tokorua tangata (tei rētita`ia `ē te ka `iki`iā koe) kia `akakī mai ma te taina i te peapa tei kāpiki `ia ē ko te **Candidate Nomination Paper**. Ko teia peapa kua mātau `ua `ia i te karanga ē ko te Form 5 i roto i te Electoral Act `ē ka rauka mai te peapa mei ko mai i te `ōpati o te Chief Electoral Officer.

Ka tikā `ia koe ki te **okota`i`iki`anga-mono** i te tuātau-`iki`anga. Mē kua `iki-mono `ia koe `e rua taime, ka `āriki `ua te Chief Electoral Officer i te `iki-mono `anga **mua** anake.

Ko te **Rā `iki`anga**, ka rave `ia te reira i te rā ta`i-nga`uru (10) i muri ake ka tōpiri `ia atu ei te au `akano`ono`o `anga o te `akapapa`anga ma`ata no te `iki`anga ma`ata. Ko te peapa no te ingoa o te `iki`anga 'Candidate Nomination Paper' kia `apaina `ia atu te reira `i mua ake i te ora tuaero (12pm) ki te ngā`i i tā`iku `ia i roto i te peapa/karere `akakite`anga i te rā o te `iki`anga.

Pou roa te au tangata (candidate) i roto i teia `iki`anga, ka anoano `ia koe kia tuku atu i tā`au moni-tuku (deposit) `e \$500 ki te Returning Officer i te ora tuaero (12pm) i te rā `iki`anga. Kia tutaki `ia atu tā`au moni na roto i te moni-taka(cash), money order, bank draft, `ē te bank cheque, auraka i te credit, debit card me kore tūtaki electronic. Ko teia moni ka `aka`oki `ia (refundable) mai rāi. `Inārā, me ka rauka mai i tēta`i tangata te ka `iki`ia, i raro

ake i te koata voutu`anga (less than a quarter) mei ta te tangata i `autu i te `iki`anga, ka tūtakina `ia atu te rerira ki roto i te Cook Islands Government Account .

Kāre te Returning Officer e `āriki i tēta`i mono`anga no te `iki`anga me kāre te peapa `iki`anga i taina meitaki `ia me kore kāre i tae mai i mua ake i te tuaero o te rā `iki`anga, kāre te moni i tūtaki `ia, me kore, te irinaki nei te Returning Officer ē kua `aere atu koe ki roto i tēta`i tu`anga-`iki`anga kia `iki`ia koe, inārā kāre `oki koe i r tita `ia ki reira.

Ko tēta`i atu au tāmanamanatā`anga no runga i te tūranga rētitā`anga ka riro te reira `e na te Ture Ngāteitei o te Kūki `Airani e `akatano me kāre e rauka i te Chief Electoral Officer i te `akatano.

Ka rauka i tēta`i uātu tangata candidate i te kiriti mai i tōna `iki`anga (nomination) i mua ake i te tuaero (12pm) i te Rā `iki`anga na roto i te `akakī mai ma te oake atu i te peapa Form 6 (Withdrawal of Nomination)ki te Returning Officer. Ka `aka`oki `ia atu tā`au moni me `āriki mai te Returning Officer i te reira.

I te tūranga ē, me `e `okota`i rāi mema i `iki`ia no tēta`i tu`anga-`iki`anga, ka riro mai rāi i reira `e koia rai ta te Chief Electoral Officer ka `āriki `ē ka `akamana.

#### Tu`anga `Akatanotano`anga nā tēta`i Candidate Tū-Anake

<b>Peapa (Nominate) Mono/`Iki no te Candidate</b>	Nga tangata i rētitā`ia no te ka `iki	No a te tuaero (12pm) i te rā `openga o te `iki`anga (nominations)
Taina`ia `e nga tangata `iki `ia tei rētitā `ia		
Moni tūtaki tei tuku`ia ki roto	Kāre e tūtaki credit/debit cards me kore electronic	No a te tuaero (12pm) i te rā `openga o te `iki`anga (nominations)

#### **`Iki`anga (Nominating)i tēta`i tangata no tēta`i Pātī**

No te tū atu kia `iki`ia koe ei mema (candidate) no tēta`i pātī, ko te mea mua kia tano `ē kia tau koe ki te au ture a te Pātī tā`au e inangaro nei i te piri atu ki roto.

#### **Te au tūranga tika`anga o te Pātī Kūki `Airani (Cook Islands Party Qualification)**

Ko te riro mai `ei mema candidate no te Pātī Kūki `Airani, ko te mea mua `e tangata koe kua tūtaki i tā`au tu`anga moni no te mema o te Kūki `Airani Pātī i roto i tō`ou tu`anga `iki`anga. I raro ake i te au ture a tēia Pātī, kua riro ana koe `ē te riro nei rāi `e mema turuturu pakari no tēia Pātī no tēta`i ngā mata`iti `e rima (5). Te riro katoa nei koe `e tangata “mātūtū `ē te ngāteitei i roto i te au raverave`anga a te Pātī, i roto i te matakeinanga, te `ākono`anga pure `ē te tūranga pitinīti...” ma te “umuumu tikāi na roto i te `anga`anga pakari `ē te aruaru pakari kia riro mai `iā koe tēia no`o`anga”.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>3</sup> Cook Islands Party Constitution October 2009 Part7 Clause (1) (a) and (c)

Ko te tūranga no te `ākarakara`anga o tēia au tū pu`apinga kāre te reira i `akataka `ia mai i roto i te `akapapa`anga a te CIP māri rā kua `akano`ono`o `ia te reira `e ngā kūmiti CIP o te tu`anga-`iki`anga.

Ka inangaro `ia koe kia taeria e koe te tūranga tē ka anoano`ia i roto i te Papa`anga `Iki`anga (Electoral Act). Kia tūkatau katoa koe i roto i ngā reo, koia te reo Māori `ē te reo `Ingareti `ē pērā katoa kia turu `ia koe `e ngā mema pāti o te tu`anga-`iki`anga tā`au e anoano nei no te tū atu. Ka inangaro katoa `ia koe kia tuku atu mei te rima tauatini tārā (\$5,000) ki te Director of Finance o te Pātī i mua ake i tō`ou `iki`anga `ia `e tō`ou tu`anga-`iki`anga.

Ko te `iki`anga o te au mema candidates ka rave `ia te reira i te tūranga o te tu`anga-`iki`anga (constituency level). Ka kāpiki`ia tēta`i `uipā`anga i roto i te tu`anga-`iki`anga `e te kūmiti o te constituency i **mua ake** i te 30 rā o te Rā `Iki`anga (Nominations Day). Ko te au `iki`anga, kia tātā`ia mai te reira, `ē kia `āriki `ia `e te tangata tei `iki`ia, kia taina `ia `e tēta`i nga tokorua (2) tangata o te tu`anga moni o te pāti, `ē kia tae ki te tēkereterē (Constituency Committee Secretary ) `e 24 ora i mua ake i te `uipā`anga. Ko te au tangata te kā `iki`atu i tēta`i mema /mono (candidate) i roto i tēia `iki`anga i raro ake i te Electoral Act, ko rātou, ko te au mema anake `ua kua mema ana rātou mei te ono (6) marama i roto i tēia tu`anga-`iki`anga nei.

No reira, me kua `iki`ia koe `e te Pātī Kūki `Airani `ei mema candidate, ka anoano`ia i reira koe i te `akakā` mai ma te tuku atu i tā`au peapa **Candidate Nomination Paper** `ē pērā katoa kia taina `ia mai tēia peapa `e te Perēteteni o te Pātī.

### **Te au tūranga tika`anga o te Pātī `Akatanotano (Cook Islands Democratic Party Qualification)**

Ko te mema anake `ua tei tūtaki i tāna tu`anga ki te Pātī `Akatanotano (CIDP), koia rāi i reira tei pāpū kia `iki`ia no te mema candidate no te tu`anga-`iki`anga (Constituency) tāna i rētitā atu ki roto, no te `iki`anga. Ko te au `iki`anga nominations kia tukuna atu na roto i te rima-tātā`anga ki te Costituency Committee, `ē kia `āriki `ia `e te tangata ka `iki`ia (nominee) `ē kia turu`ia `e tēta`i tokorima (5) tangata te kā `iki`. E pērā katoa ko teia au tokorima, `e au mema tūtaki rāi rātou i roto i te Pātī o te tu`anga-`iki`anga ta te *nominee* e umuumu nei kia tū `aia.<sup>4</sup>

I raro ake i te ture a te CIDP, ko te Kūmiti Democratic Party o tērā Tu`anga-`Iki`anga ka `akapapa` mai `aia i tēta`i peapa `iki`anga (nomination form)kia tā`anga`anga `ia `e pērā katoa kia `akakite`ia te karere ki te kātoatoa no te ngā`i, te rā `ē te ora kia tae mai te au `iki`anga o te au tangata (candidates) o te tu`anga-`iki`anga e `akano`o`ia nei. Kia `akataka katoa `ia oki te pūnanga no te `āravei`anga, te rā, `ē te ora no te `iki`anga i te mema te ka manuia mai no te mono atu i te Pātī.

Ka rave katoa te Constituency Committee i tē ta`i au `akano`ono`o`anga na roto i te rima-tātā, tā te tangata ka `iki`ia (*nominee*) ma te `āriki i roto rāi i te rima-tātā. Ko te au `akano`ono`o`anga, kā ō mai te tūtaki *fee* tei `akano`o`ia `e te Constituency Committee, `āriki i te tangata tei `autu mai no te tu`anga-`iki`anga ma te kore e pāto`i; `āriki ma te turuturu i te au `akaue`anga tei `akapapa`ia `e te Pātī no te au *candidates* ka `oro i roto i te `iki`anga.

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<sup>4</sup> Cook Islands Democratic Party Constitution Clauses 17 and 19

Mē `e ma`ata ake i te ta`i tangata (koia te *nominee*) i roto i te `iki`anga, ko te vouti`anga no te `iki i te *candidate*, ka nā roto te reira i te `iki`anga muna (*secret ballot*)`ē na te au mema o te tu`anga-`iki`anga tei tūtaki, nā rātou e `iki. Ka turu te Pātī `e `okota`i `ua *candidate* mei roto mai i te tu`anga-`iki`anga.

Me oti te `iki`anga o te mema *candidate*, ka taina te Pātī `ē te *candidate* i tēta`i kōreromotu **Agreement of Party Affiliation** no te `akamou`anga i tēta`i au `akapapa`anga `ē te `akano`ono`o`anga na te mema *candidate* ki te Pātī. Ka riro i reira teia `ei tika`anga nō`ou no te au tū-tauturu mei te *campaign* `e vai nei no te au *candidate* o te Pātī.

Me `iki mai i reira te CIDP `ia koe,`e ko te candidate, i reira ka `aere koe ka tuku atu i tā`au **Candidate Nomination Paper** tei taina `ia `e te Perēteteni o te pātī.

Tu`anga `Akatanotano`anga nā tēta`i Candidate Pātī

Raverave	`Akamārama`anga	Tuātau
`iki`anga a te Pātī te mema <i>Candidate</i> `ē te tūtaki fees	Kia tano, kia tau, kia tika te nūmero o te au tangata te ka `iki atu	Kia tau ki te ture a te Pātī
Te <b>Candidate Nomination Paper</b> kia taina `ia `e te au tangata i rētita`ia no te `iki`anga	`E tokorua ngā tangata i rētita`ia no te `iki`anga	I te ora 12pm, te rā `openga o te `iki`anga
Tuku`anga mai i tā`au tūtaki`anga	Kāre e tūtaki credit/debit cards me kore electronic	I te ora 12pm, te rā `openga o te `iki`anga

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