

John Scrimgeour

Q1. Contact Details

Name	John Scrimgeour
What Council are you standing for?	BOP Regional Council
What position(s) are you standing for on the above Council?	WBOPDC constituency

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

I feel life's experiences (on the land and in local government) have prepared me for this role
A more focussed council delivering value for money eg Public Transport is a massive cost to both ratepayers and taxpayers
Councils working together to minimise costs

Q3. How will you support the kiwifruit industry?

Aim to have staff more willing to engage with growers over consents, particularly earthworks and water take so they better understand what is expected of them
For Post Harvest sector consenting process's that are not drawn out but enable them to respond to developing issues/needs

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

encourage accommodation on and around orchards
Explain to providers the need to meet regulations before they undertake works. I am aware of facilities closed down and or construction halted by operating outside the law
Promote opportunity for facilities to meet the great need. Staff can live rurally but do need reasonable access to towns

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

In my view there needs to be a review about how much water can be allocated - we see streams that are deemed over allocated but have vast quantities of water running out to sea
Human needs override irrigation and industrial needs but all users need to maximise the efficiency of their water use

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

We will not be able to stop the need for some productive land to be urbanised to cater for a growing population and workforce but we need to get a much higher housing yield from both new and existing housing areas

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

Lobby Central Government to hasten construction and upgrades of State Highways in BOP
Seek greater use of Rail for freight
Work for upgrade of local roads and seek to minimise disruption during autumn harvest period

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

Use of council weather data to understand changes that are occurring .
Growers need to observe and understand and make assessments based on projections which is challenging given variability and uncertainty