

RETINA NZ VOTING PAPER 2025

Due to legislation changes under the Incorporated Societies Act 2022, we are required to re-register as an Incorporated Society by 1 April 2026.

Our membership voted in favour of the Committee beginning the re-registration process at the 2024 AGM. Now we are ready to take the next step, which is to ask our members to vote on changing our Constitution to reflect the changes required by law.

What are the changes?

The 2022 Act modernises the way societies operate. It is more comprehensive than the 1908 Act and will help to integrate best practice processes into all societies (for example, ensuring societies have good mechanisms in place for handling internal disputes and prepare financial statements to a consistent set of standards). The 2022 Act places a stronger emphasis on officers acting in the best interest of the society, not its members.

You can read more about the key changes online: <https://is-register.companiesoffice.govt.nz/law-changes-for-societies/key-changes/>

As we are replacing our current Constitution with a new document, both versions are attached as digital copies on the email that was sent to our members and are available on our website. We will have printed copies available at the AGM.

If I vote YES, what happens next?

Retina NZ will begin operating under the new Constitution and will be compliant with the new legislation.

This will then allow the Committee to finish the re-registration process, and we can continue to operate as an incorporated society.

...what happens if I vote NO?

If the result of the vote is to not replace our current Constitution, we will need to understand why, and what concerns we need to address. We will take this information on board, make the necessary changes and hold another General Meeting at a future date before 1 April 2026.

If you have questions or concerns, please email admin@retina.org.nz

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How do I vote?

You can do one of the following:

1. Return this voting paper via the enclosed envelope to:

PO Box 7001, Hamilton East, Hamilton 3247

2. Send an email to: admin@retina.org.nz with your name, a contact number, and your vote either in favour (YES) or against (NO) the resolution.

3. Bring this voting paper with you to our AGM in **Wellington on Saturday 6th September at the Blind Low Vision Offices at 121 Adelaide Road, Newtown.**

4. Vote by proxy – if you cannot attend the AGM in person or via Zoom, or you trust another person to vote in your interest, you can choose to give your vote to another member (including a Committee member). We have proxy forms available.

Voting Closes Saturday 6th September 11:00am

Resolution: To replace the Retina New Zealand Constitution 2018 with the Retina New Zealand Constitution 2025.

- ☐ I vote **YES** on the resolution to replace our current constitution with the Retina Constitution 2025 document.
- ☐ I vote **NO** on the resolution to replace our current constitution with the Retina Constitution 2025 document.

NAME: _____

SIGNED: _____

DATE: _____