

Representation Review

YOUR
CHOICE

REPRESENTATION
REVIEW

20
22



MĀU E
WHIRIWHIRI



2022
TE AROTAKE
WHAKAAHUAHANGA

What is a representation review?

“an opportunity to take a fresh look at the structure of the membership of council and the way councillors and community board members are elected”

Questions we need to ask?

- How many councillors should we have?
- Should councillors be elected from across the whole district or split into wards?
- If wards are introduced, what should the boundaries be?
- If we have wards, how many councillors should we have per ward?
- Should Community Boards be introduced/retained?
- Number of seats for Māori Ward/Wards

Why are reviews important?

- They ensure our electoral arrangements are fair
- They ensure equality of access
- They enable citizens to discuss the nature of effective representation in our district
- They contribute to our experience of democracy not just locally but also nationally

**There are some things that
need to be considered in
order to put an initial
proposal together**

Consideration #1

#1 - Determine the overall framework

Māori ward/s + General Ward/s

Or

Māori ward/s + General & “at large”

Only those on the Māori electoral role can vote for those persons running for a seat in the Māori ward/s

Consideration #2

#2 – What should be the total number of councillors?

This excludes the Mayor as the mayor is voted in from everyone across the district

Total number of councillors could be from:

5 to 29

Consideration #3

#3 – How many Māori members could we have?

Determining the number of Māori members is based upon:

- Determining the total number of councillors
- If the framework is a mixed system (general wards & “at large”) the number of “at large” councillors are removed from the total number
- Multiplying the total number of councillors by the ratio of Māori electoral population to the total (Māori and general) electoral population

#3 – Total number of Māori members

The calculation of Māori members must then use this equation:

$$\text{nmm} = \frac{\text{mepd}}{\text{mepd} + \text{gepd}} \times \text{nm} \qquad \text{nmm} = \frac{21,700}{21,700 + 55,600} \times \text{nm}$$

Where:

- nmm – no. of Māori ward members
- mepd – Māori electoral population of the district
- gepd – general electoral population of the district
- nm – proposed number of members of the district other than the mayor and at large numbers

Māori electoral population, and general electoral population are calculated by Statistics New Zealand and are provided to each local authority – based on 2018 Census



Consideration #4

#4 – Fair and effective representation

The review must provide for fair and effective representation. There are three key factors to carefully consider:

Communities of interest

Effective representation of communities of interest

Fair representation of electors

Communities of interest

Must consider if there any identifiable communities of interest below the district level where there exists distinctive **interests** and **needs**?

Could be described as:

Sense of community identity and belonging reinforced by:

- geography, or physical barriers
- economics
- Demographics
- local history of the area,
- local iwi and hapu

Effective representation of communities of interest

If a community of interest is identified, the review must consider how to **effectively represent** them within the total number of councillors, and the framework (wards, at large, mix system) that has been decided upon.

The total number of councilors and the framework may need to be reconsidered to ensure effective representation is achieved.

Fair representation

Fair representation needs to be applied when the framework includes wards.

This means that the membership of each ward needs to provide approximately the same number of population per member. This is referred to as the +/- 10% rule

Consideration #5

#5 Community Boards

The review can also establish new community boards, alter or disestablishment an existing board

The structure of a community board must have:

- A minimum of 4 and a maximum of 12 community board members
- At least 4 elected community board members.

Other members can be appointed members, but must be:

- Councillors and
- Less than half the total number of elected community board members

If ward system is being used then the community board must come from ward in which the community is in.

Timetable

Phase One	Awareness, engagement and development of initial proposal
Now	The draft 'initial proposal' will be developed from the input received from the members of our community.
31 August	Adopt initial draft proposal
Phase Two	Consultation – have your say on the proposal
8 September 2021 to 8 October 2021	This is when you can make a formal submission on the proposal
11 November 2021	You can attend a hearing if you want to tell the council in person what you think.
16 November 2021	After considering what people said in their submissions, the council will make a final decision on its representation arrangements for the 2022 election and adopt a final proposal.
Phase Three	Objection/appeals/final decision
19 November 2021 to 19 December 2021	The public has the right to make an objection or appeal during this period before the proposal is sent to the Local Government Commission (LGC).
By 10 April 2022	If objections or appeals are made, the LGC must make a final determination on the representation arrangements.

Questions