

WAITAKI DISTRICT COUNCIL

Find out more 

# Representation Review Initial Proposal

for the 2025 and 2028 local elections

Consultation Document

Have  
your say



**Waitaki**

DISTRICT COUNCIL

TE KAUNIHERA Ā ROHE O WAITAKI

# What's this all about?

**Elections for councils are held every three years. This is when residents vote for mayors and councillors, and for community board members, to represent them.**

Councils are required by the Local Electoral Act 2001 to take a fresh look at their representation arrangements at least every six years. This is to make sure the council is structured to best represent the interests and needs of its community.

The last time Waitaki District Council did a review was in 2018. It's now time to review arrangements again.

Councils must determine whether to have wards or not; whether to elect some councillors by wards, at large, or a mix of both; the proposed number of wards; the proposed name and boundaries of each ward; and the number of councillors proposed to be elected in each ward. Councils must also make decisions about Community Boards.

Council is now notifying its Initial Proposal for Waitaki's representation arrangements, and we are now inviting submissions on it.

## Where can you find more information?

Copies of:

- the final Council Resolution from the 23 July 2024 meeting to adopt the Initial Proposal for this Representation Review,
- the Representation Review report to the 11 July 2024 Additional Council Meeting which includes the Representation Review options for discussion,
- and the Representation Review 2024 map showing the current boundaries for all Wards,

can be found:

→ **online at [www.letstalk.waitaki.govt.nz/representation-review](http://www.letstalk.waitaki.govt.nz/representation-review)**

→ **at Council offices in Ōamaru and Palmerston.**

## Review Timeline

- **Consultation opens**  
Friday 2 August 2024
- **Consultation closes**  
Wednesday 4 September 2024
- **Submission Hearings**  
Monday 9 September 2024 (TBC)
- **Council decisions on Final Proposal**  
Tuesday 22 October 2024
- **Council Notifies Final Proposal**  
Before 30 October 2024
- **Open for Appeals and Objections**  
Friday 25 October to  
Friday 29 November 2024
- **Local Government Commission makes its determination**  
Before 10 April 2025



*We are accepting submissions until 11.59pm, 4 September 2024*

## How to make a submission

Any person or organisation is invited to make a submission on Council's representation proposal.



### Do it online

fill in the online form on our website:

[www.letstalk.waitaki.govt.nz/representation-review](http://www.letstalk.waitaki.govt.nz/representation-review)



### Email it

to [consult@waitaki.govt.nz](mailto:consult@waitaki.govt.nz)



### Write it

Fill in the attached paper form and post it back to us:

Waitaki District Council,  
Submission: Representation Review, Private Bag 50058, Ōamaru 9444



### Drop it

to Council offices in Ōamaru - 20 Thames St, or Palmerston - 54 Tiverton St.



# What are we proposing?

**We are proposing that Waitaki district residents are represented by a Mayor and Councillors and Community Boards under the following arrangements. (Please refer to the map to see the ward boundaries.)**

We are proposing to retain the existing representation arrangements for the Waitaki District for the 2025 and 2028 Local Elections (the 'status quo' option).

The initial proposal below is in draft pending confirmation at today's meeting.

## Initial Proposal for Representation Review 2024

On 23 April 2024, the Waitaki District Council reviewed and resolved its Initial Proposal as set out below:

1. Adopts under Sections 19H and 19J of the Local Electoral Act 2001, the following Initial Proposal for Waitaki District Council's representation arrangements for the local elections to be held on 11 October 2025 and future elections until altered by a subsequent decision:
  - a. That the Waitaki District Council comprises the Mayor who is elected at large, and 10 Councillors elected from four Wards; and
  - b. That the Waitaki District is divided into four general wards with boundaries as illustrated in the map, with the Ward names and number of Councillors to
    - i) represent them as set out below:
    - ii) The Ahuriri Ward represented by one Councillor elected by the electors of the Ahuriri Ward
    - iii) The Ōamaru Ward represented by six Councillors elected by the electors of the Ōamaru Ward; and
    - iv) The Corriedale Ward represented by two Councillors elected by the electors of the Corriedale Ward; and
    - v) The Waihemo Ward represented by one Councillor elected by the electors of the Waihemo Ward.

*continued next page*

## Important information

All councillors, regardless of the area they are elected to represent, make the same declaration to act in the best interests of the whole of Waitaki.

A resident can ask any councillor for help and is not limited to their local ward councillors.

### **Note that rates aren't affected by the number of Elected Members.**

The cost of remuneration for elected members, whilst paid from district rates, is based on a remuneration pool set by an independent government agency – the Remuneration Authority.

Any change in the number of councillors would have no impact on rates as the full remuneration pool must be distributed each year following the Remuneration Authority's Determination. The total amount would be redistributed among the remaining elected members if there was a reduction in the number of Councillors.

- c. That the population (based on Statistics New Zealand estimates as at 30 June 2023) that each Member will represent is as follows:

	<b>Population</b>	<b>Members</b>	<b>Population-member ratio</b>	<b>Difference from quota</b>	<b>% Difference from quota</b>
Ahuriri Ward	2,040	1	2,040	-396	-16.26
Oamaru Ward	14,900	6	2,483	47	1.94
Waihemo ward	2,500	1	2,500	64	2.63
Corriedale Ward	4,920	2	2,460	24	0.99
<b>Total</b>	<b>24,360</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>2,436</b>		

- d. That there will be two communities which will be represented by a community board, as follows:

<b>Ahuriri Community Board</b>	Area covered by the present Ahuriri Ward boundaries
<b>Waihemo Community Board</b>	Area covered by the present Waihemo Ward boundaries

- e. That the Ahuriri and Waihemo Ward communities will each elect five members, and they will not be sub-divided for electoral purposes, and that following elections, elected Ward Members will be appointed to the Boards by Council, as follows:

<b>Ahuriri Community Board</b>	The Ahuriri Ward Councillor
<b>Waihemo Community Board</b>	The Waihemo Ward Councillor

2. Notes that the proposed arrangement for the Ahuriri Ward does not meet the requirements of Section 19V(2) of the Local Electoral Act 2001; and
3. Agrees that the Ahuriri Ward be treated as an isolated community and exempted from complying with Section 19V(2) of the Local Electoral Act 2001 on the grounds that non-compliance is required for effective representation of isolated communities of interest within and between wards, for reasons including:
- That the Ahuriri Ward has previously been recognised by the Local Government Commission as an isolated community in representation reviews since 2007; and
  - That compliance with Section 19V(2) would limit effective representation by dividing communities of interest between and within wards; and
  - That the Ahuriri Ward spans a very large geographical area comprising isolated communities with separate and distinct needs which consequently require a separate Councillor and Community Board to be effectively represented; and
  - The Ahuriri Ward's character as a summer destination where small permanent populations in separate communities of interest are significantly increased by visitors during the holiday season; and
  - That the Ahuriri Ward's non-compliance ratio in 2023 of -16.26% is a considerable decrease in over-representation from the -21.95% ratio for that ward in the 2018 Representation Review, and that the Ward's population growth continues to trend upwards as a result of ongoing tourism and economic development.

# Representation Review 2024

## SUBMISSION FORM

Have  
your say



Thank you for taking this opportunity to comment on our Representation Proposal

Submissions close Wednesday 4 September 2024 at 11.59pm

- Online:** [letstalk.waitaki.govt.nz/representation-review](http://letstalk.waitaki.govt.nz/representation-review)
- Email:** [consult@waitaki.govt.nz](mailto:consult@waitaki.govt.nz)
- Post:** Submission: Representation Review  
Waitaki District Council, Private Bag 50058, Ōamaru 9444
- Deliver:** Drop it off at any Council office or district library



Scan for more  
info and online  
feedback form



### Your contact details: (please print clearly)

Full name: ..... Organisation (if applicable):.....  
Postal address: .....  
Email: ..... Phone: .....

### Do you wish to speak in support of your submission at the hearing?

Yes

No

*If you choose 'yes', we will be in touch to arrange a time. Hearings can be attended in person or joined online via zoom and will be live-streamed. The hearing will be held in the Council Chamber on Monday 9 September 2024 (subject to confirmation).*

You can submit on any or all of the questions below. You don't have to complete every question.

### Do you support retaining the current number of Councillors (10)?

Yes

No

Comments? .....  
.....  
.....

### Do you support retaining the existing arrangement of elections by Ward?

Yes

No

Comments? .....  
.....  
.....

## Do you support retaining the existing Wards and boundaries?

Yes

No

**Comments?**.....  
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.....  
.....

## Do you support retaining the existing arrangements for the Ahuriri and Waihemo Community Boards?

Yes

No

**Comments?**.....  
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.....

## Any other comments?

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Need more room? You can add extra pages if there is not enough space on this form.

### Points to remember when giving us your feedback:

- Please note that all submissions are public documents and will be made available on Council's website with the names of submitters included in accordance with our Privacy Policy. For more information, you can visit our privacy policy on our website.
- Your submission will not be returned to you once it is lodged with Council. Please keep a copy for your reference.
- Submissions accompanied by multiple signatures or as a petition will be processed as a single submission.

**If you have any queries regarding the consultation or about how to give your feedback, please contact us on (03) 433 0300 or [consult@waitaki.govt.nz](mailto:consult@waitaki.govt.nz).**

Phone 03 433 0300  
Email [service@waitaki.govt.nz](mailto:service@waitaki.govt.nz)  
Office 20 Thames Street,  
Private Bag 50058, Ōamaru 9444



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