

Final Proposal for Representation Arrangements

Submissions:

On 29 August 2018, Hauraki District Council considered the submissions received on its initial proposal regarding the representation arrangements for the Council to apply for the local elections to be held on 12 October 2019.

The Council received 32 submissions on its initial proposal:

- 5 submissions supported the Council's proposal;
- 27 submissions opposed the Council's proposal.

Those who supported the initial proposal identified the following issues:

- may encourage younger and more diverse councillors;
- opposed to community boards.

Those who opposed the initial proposal identified the following issues:

- Waihi Ward requires four councillors (to provide fair and effective representation);
- three councillors for Waihi Ward are insufficient for the area's complex and unique needs (eg mining);
- flawed arguments of the benefits promoted of the initial proposal;
- one or more community boards should be established (especially in Waihi);
- fewer councillors will not lead to greater diversity or more effective representation;
- Waikino is part of the Waihi community;
- non-resident ratepayers (Whiritoa area) should be taken into consideration;
- must comply with +/- 10% rule;
- retain status quo.

Final Proposal:

Having considered all of the submissions, the Council resolved on 29 August 2018 to amend its initial proposal to the following final proposal by:

- retaining 12 councillors, plus the mayor;
- retaining the current three wards.

The final proposal is therefore:

- (i) Hauraki District Council comprises 12 councillors elected under the ward system, plus the mayor elected at large;
- (ii) Hauraki District Council be divided into three wards, these being:
 - Plains Ward** (four councillors) being the existing ward comprising the area delineated on LGC-012-2013-W-2 deposited with the Local Government Commission;
 - Paeroa Ward** (four councillors) being the existing ward comprising the area delineated on SO Plan 57980 deposited with Land Information New Zealand;
 - Waihi Ward** (four councillors), being the existing ward comprising the area delineated on SO Plan 57979 deposited with Land Information New Zealand;
- (iii) no community boards be established.

The reasons the total number of councillors is proposed to remain at the status quo of 12 (from nine in the initial proposal) are:

- (a) 12 councillors better reflect unique ward issues and consequential workload;
- (b) 12 councillors may provide greater diversity;
- (c) four councillors per ward provides better local representation (with no community boards);
- (d) the majority of submissions supported a greater number of councillors.

The three wards, the number of councillors per ward, the ward populations (estimated as at 30 June 2017) and the population ratio per councillor are as follows:

Ward	Population	Councillors	Average	% Variation
Plains	6,350	4	1,588	-3.93%
Paeroa	6,150	4	1,538	-6.96%
Waihi	7,340	4	1,835	+11.01%

In accordance with section 19V(2) of the Local Electoral Act 2001, the population that each councillor represents must be within the population range of 1,653 plus or minus 10% (1,488 - 1,818).

As the Waihi Ward is non-compliant with the fair representation requirement (+/- 10% rule), the final proposal must be treated as an appeal under section 19V(5) of the Local Electoral Act 2001 and referred to the Local Government Commission following the appeal/objection period, for determination.

Appeals and Objections:

Any person who objects to the final proposal may lodge an objection to the Council's final proposal. Any objection must identify the matters to which the objection relates.

Any person who has made a submission on the Council's initial proposal may lodge an appeal against the Council's decision. An appeal must relate to the matters raised in that person's submission.

Appeal/Objection forms, which are available at Council offices and from the Council website <https://hauraki-dc.govt.nz>, should state your name, address, telephone number and email address (if you have one) and should reach the Council no later than **4.00pm on Friday 12 October 2018**.

Appeals and objections should be addressed to: Steve Fabish, Group Manager - Community Services & Development, Hauraki District Council, 1 William Street, Paeroa, or PO Box 17, Paeroa 3640.

Langley Cavers

Chief Executive, Hauraki District Council

Phone: 07 862 8609 or 0800 734 834

12 September 2018

