

Public Notice

Thursday, 27 June 2024

Final Proposal for Representation Arrangements for the 2025 Local Elections

Pursuant to section 19M of the Local Electoral Act 2001 the Hurunui District Council gives public notice of its final proposal for its representation arrangements for the 2025 local elections.

Submissions

On 11 June 2024 the Hurunui District Council considered the submissions received on its initial proposal regarding the representation arrangements for the Council and its constituent community boards to apply for the local elections to be held on 11 October 2025.

The Council received 22 submissions on its proposal. All the submissions were in favour of the three Wards, ten Councillors, the Mayor, and the Hanmer Springs Community Board part of the proposal. Eight submissions were in favour of the full proposal. Fourteen submissions contained objections to the formation or membership of the proposed South Ward Community Board and associated subdivisions. The summary of the verbatim objections are as follows:

- One submitter was for the South Ward Community Board with six elected board members and only three Ward councillors to attend the meetings.
- Two submitters were for the South Ward Community Board and the idea of electing board members from two subdivisions but sought a different ratio of members.
- Three submitters were against the South Ward Community Board due to the impact on ratepayers.
- Four submitters objected to the formation of a South Ward Community Board due to the limitation of community and youth voice.
- Five submitters supported the current South Ward Committee structure as it stands.

Final Proposal

Having considered all the objections, the Council resolved to adopt its initial proposal as the Council's final proposal, subject to the following amendments:

- The South Ward Community Board membership will consist of five elected board members elected at large from the South Ward rather than from two subdivisions.

The Council considers that the change is appropriate for the following reasons:

- Due to the Electoral Act rules, the subdivision split would not necessarily mean that elected members were from the areas stipulated in the proposed subdivisions.
- The main reason to form a South Ward Community Board was to remove representation from set groups and areas and the at large model allows for elected board members who represent the interests of the whole South Ward.

The Council rejected the other matters raised in the objections for the following reasons:

- The ratio of members under the subdivision model was set by the Electoral Act and unable to be changed as submitters requested. It did not see the need for extra persons on the Board under the at large model.

- The Council was of the view that the various community groups will still be able to bring requests via the normal process, including the youth voice.

Therefore, the final proposal is as follows:

Council Representation

It is proposed that the Council retains its 10 members elected from the existing three wards, and the mayor. The three wards continue to reflect the following identified communities of interest:

Ward	Communities of interest
West Ward	Encompassing Hanmer Springs, Culverden, Hawarden, Waikari, Rotherham, Waiau and Mt Lyford.
East Ward	Encompassing Cheviot and Glenmark.
South Ward	Encompasses Leithfield, Leithfield Beach, Balcairn, Amberley, Broomfield, and Amberley Beach.

The population that each member will represent is as follows:

Ward	Population (2018 Census)	Members	Population per member
West Ward	5,450	4	1,363
East Ward	2,670	2	1,335
South Ward	5,680	4	1,420
Total	13,800	10	1,380

In accordance with section 19V(2), Local Electoral Act 2001 the population that each member represents must be within the range of +/- 10% (1,242 to 1,518).

Community Board Representation

It is proposed that the following two community boards be elected:

Community Board	Area of Community
Hanmer Springs Community Board	Encompassing the rating area of Hanmer Springs
South Ward Community Board	This will encompass the entire area of the South Ward

Hanmer Springs Community Board

The Hanmer Springs Community Board will elect five members. It will not be subdivided for electoral purposes and will have one appointed Councillor from the West Ward.

South Ward Community Board

The South Ward Community Board will elect five members. It will not be subdivided for electoral purposes and will have four appointed Councillors from the South Ward.

Appeals and Objections

Any person who 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.

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.

Appeals and objections must be made in writing and must be received by Council no later than Thursday, 1 August 2024.

Written appeals and objections can be forwarded to:

Attention: Michelle Stanley

- Michelle.stanley@hurunui.govt.nz ;
- Dropped into any of the Council's service centres and libraries; or
- Post to Hurunui District Council, PO Box 13, Amberley 7441.

Further Information

Direct any queries regarding the Council's decision to Michelle Stanley:

- Phone 0204 1333 201; or
- Michelle.stanley@hurunui.govt.nz

Hamish Dobbie

Chief Executive

27 June 2024