

# Final proposal for representation arrangements for the 2022 local elections

## Submissions

On October 19, 2021 the Ōtorohanga District Council considered the submissions received on its initial proposal regarding the representation arrangements for the Council and Community Boards for the elections to be held on October 8, 2022:

The Council received six submissions on its proposal. Three submissions were in favour of the Council's proposal. Three submissions objected the Council's proposal but were not considered:

Two of the submissions opposing the introduction of Māori Wards were not considered as this had previously been adopted and was outside the scope of the Initial Proposal. The Local Government Commission provided guidance in August 2021 that:

"Submissions, appeals and objections cannot be made on Councils' decisions to establish (or not establish) Māori wards and constituencies. These are decisions of Council made prior to the representation review process commencing and, similar to the decision on voting system, form the context of the representation review.

Submissions, appeals and objections relating to Māori wards and constituencies can be made:

- regarding the names of Māori wards and constituencies; and
  - where more than one member is eligible to be elected via Māori wards and constituencies, whether there should be one or more Māori wards or constituencies, and the boundaries of any such ward or constituency; and
  - regarding the total number of members to be elected."
- Therefore the Council rejects both of these submissions – the reason is both are 'out of scope' of the Representation Review.

One submission opposing the Initial Proposal gave no reason. The Council rejects this submission because the submitter has not given any reasons for the Council to consider.

Two submissions were in favour of the Initial Proposal. The Council accepts both of these submissions as they support the proposal to provide fair and effective representation of the various communities of interest in Ōtorohanga District. 1 submission proposed a suggested name for the District Wide Māori Ward as follows;

### Rangiātea:

- Is both a place in Hawaiki and point of final dispersal of the migration of Tainui Waka.
- A mountain of significance in Ngāti Maniapoto territory (Maihihi area).
- Where Tūrongo and Mahinārangī lived. (Tūrongo begat Raukawa; Raukawa begat Rereahu; Rereahu begat Maniapoto - the Māori King's line.)
- House of the males atua, the Whatukura, in the uppermost heaven

## Final Proposal

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

- The proposed "District Wide Maori Ward" be renamed as the "Rangiātea Māori Ward"

## Council Representation

It is proposed that the Council comprise 9 members elected from six wards, and the mayor elected at-large.

The six wards reflect the following identified communities of interest:

Ward	Communities of Interest
Kāwhia/Tihiroa Ward	The communities of Kāwhia and Aotea together with, but not limited to, the rural areas of Oparau, Hauturu, Ngutunui, Tihiroa, Te Kawa and Honikiwi.
Kio Kio/Korakonui Ward	The area comprising, but not limited to, the rural areas of Kio Kio, Tokanui Crossroads, Korakonui and Ngahape.
Ōtorohanga Ward	The community of Ōtorohanga which covers the township of Ōtorohanga.
Waipā Ward	The area comprising, but not limited to, the rural areas of Rangiātea, Maihihi, Paewhenua, Whawharua, Otewa and Rewa Rewa.
Wharepūhanga Ward	The area comprising, but not limited to, the rural areas of Waikeria, Wharepūhanga, Ngaroma, Arohena and Ranginui.
Rangiātea Māori Ward	A district wide ward that reflects the community of interest for Māori electors and those in the Māori community.

The population that each member will represent is as follows:

Wards	Population*	Members	Population per member	% Deviation from the average
<b>General</b>				
Kāwhia/Tihiroa Ward	2,590	2	1,295	6.50
Kio Kio/Korakonui Ward	1,330	1	1,330	9.38
Ōtorohanga Ward	2,270	2	1,135	-6.66
Waipā Ward	1,150	1	1,150	-5.43
Wharepūhanga Ward	1,170	1	1,170	-3.78
Total General	8,510	7	average 1,216	
<b>Māori</b>				
Rangiātea Māori Ward	2,180	2		
Total		9		

\* Department of Statistics population estimates as at 30 June 2020

In accordance with section 19V(2) of the Local Electoral Act 2001 the population that each member represents must be within the range of 1,216 +/- 10% (1,094 to 1,338), unless particular community of interest considerations justify otherwise. All five general wards are within the stipulated range.

## Community Board Representation

It is proposed that two community boards will be elected.

The two community boards will be:

Community Boards	Area of Community
Kāwhia	The townships of Aotea and Kāwhia.
Ōtorohanga	The township of Ōtorohanga.

The Kāwhia Community Board will have four elected members. The Kāwhia Community will have two subdivisions for electoral purposes. Kāwhia Subdivision will have 3 elected members and Aotea Subdivision will have 1 elected member. The Council will appoint 1 member of the Kāwhia/Tihiroa Ward to the Board.

Electoral Subdivisions	Population*	Members	Population per member	% Deviation from the average
Kāwhia Subdivision	410	3	137	16.10
Aotea Subdivision	60	1	60	-49.15
Total	470	4	average 118	

In accordance with section 19V(2) of the Local Electoral Act 2001 the population that each member represents must be within the range of 118 +/- 10% (1,06 to 130), unless particular community of interest considerations justify otherwise. Both the electoral subdivisions wards are outside the stipulated range. The Council believes that to provide effective representation of the Aotea community strict compliance with the rule is not appropriate because Aotea is effectively an island/isolated community physically separate from Kāwhia, the percentage variance is considered to be appropriate and the estimated usually resident population does not reflect the number of ratepayers in the area.

The Ōtorohanga Community Board will have 4 members elected at large. The Council will appoint 2 members of the Ōtorohanga Ward to the board.

## 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 November 30, 2021.

Appeals and objections are to be forwarded to Graham Bunn, Group Manager Business Enablement, phone 07 873 4374 or email [grahamb@otodc.govt.nz](mailto:grahamb@otodc.govt.nz)

## Further Information

Direct any queries regarding the Council's decision to Graham Bunn (contact details above)

Tanya Winter  
Chief Executive  
Ōtorohanga District Council  
October 21, 2021