

FINAL PROPOSAL FOR REPRESENTATION ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE 2019 LOCAL ELECTIONS

Submissions

On 26 June 2018 the Napier City Council considered submissions on its initial proposal for representation arrangements, which will apply for the local elections on 12 October 2019.

The Council received 37 submissions on its proposal. Five submissions were in favour of the Council's proposal. Three submissions were unclear in their position. Twenty-nine (29) submissions contained objections to various elements of the proposal, as follows:

- Twenty-two submitters sought to move to a ward-only electoral system
- Two submitters proposed to move to a ward-only system with a lesser number of Councillors (10), and to establish community boards
- One submitter sought to move to a ward-only system, with a larger number of wards
- One submitter proposed to move to a ward-only system with a larger number of Councillors (four per ward or 16)
- One submitter proposed an alternate mixed system with four at-large Councillors and two Councillors for each of the wards, removing single-member wards
- One submitter objected to the continued existence of wards in the city
- One submitter supported the current electoral system but sought to reduce the number of Councillors to 10.

Final Proposal

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

- The electoral system be altered from the current mixed system to a ward-only system.

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

- The full ward system was determined to be the fairest and provide the best representation in accordance with the detailed analysis provided in the officer's report.
- 70% of submissions received were in favour of the full ward system.
- A ward-only system is hoped to increase the diversity, visibility and accountability of Council.
- The workloads of ward Councillors would be better shared amongst more people.

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

- The majority of submitters were content with the current number of Councillors and did not support the establishment of community boards.

Therefore the final proposal is as follows:

Council Representation

It is proposed that the Council comprise 12 members elected from four wards, and the mayor. The existing four wards are retained and reflect the following identified communities of interest:

WARD	COMMUNITIES OF INTEREST
Ahuriri Ward	Bayview, Westshore, Ahuriri, Bluff Hill, Hospital Hill, and the northern part of Onekawa West
Nelson Park Ward	Nelson Park, McLean Park, Onekawa South, Maraenui, area of Marewa south of Kennedy Road, area of Piriwai south of Kennedy Road, and the most northern meshblock of Awatoto
Onekawa-Tamatea Ward	Onekawa Central, Onekawa West, Tamatea North, Tamatea South, Northern part of Piriwai, and the northern part of Marewa (i.e. consisting of all meshblocks north of Kennedy Road)
Taradale Ward	Taradale South, Taradale North, Greenmeadows, Poraiti, Meeanee, and Awatoto (except the most northern meshblock)

The population that each member will represent is as follows:

WARD	POPULATION (2017 ESTIMATE)	MEMBERS	POPULATION PER MEMBER
Ahuriri Ward	10,200	2	5,100
Nelson Park Ward	18,750	4	4,687.5
Onekawa-Tamatea Ward	10,400	2	5,200
Taradale Ward	22,600	4	5,650
Total	61,950	12	61,950

In accordance with section 19V(2) of the Local Electoral Act 2001 the population that each member represents must be within the range of 5,162.5 +/- 10% (4,646.25 to 5,678.75), unless particular community of interest considerations justify otherwise.

Community Board Representation

It is proposed that community boards are not established.

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 Friday 3 August 2018.

Appeals and objections are to be forwarded to:

Attention - Deborah Smith (06 834 9826)
Physical address - Customer Service Centre, 215 Hastings Street, Napier.
Email - governance@napier.govt.nz

Further Information

Please direct any queries regarding the Council's decision to Deborah Smith (contact details above).

Wayne Jack
CHIEF EXECUTIVE