

PUBLIC NOTICE

INITIAL PROPOSAL FOR REPRESENTATION ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE 2022 LOCAL ELECTIONS

On 26 August 2021 the Hastings District Council reviewed its representation arrangements, and resolved that the following proposal apply for the Council and its community board for the elections to be held on 8 October 2022:

Council Representation

It is proposed that the Council comprise 15 members elected from six wards, and the mayor. The six wards reflect the following identified communities of interest:

Ward Name	Communities of interest
General Wards	
Flaxmere Ward	The general electoral population from the urban community of Flaxmere Village.
Hastings-Havelock North Ward	The general electoral population from the urban communities of Hastings City and Havelock North Village.
Heretaunga Ward	The general electoral population from the villages of Clive, Haumoana, Te Awanga and Whakatū and from the Heretaunga Plains area excluding the urban areas of Hastings, Flaxmere and Havelock North.
Kahurānaki Ward	The general electoral population from the rural area of Hastings District south of the Ngaruroro River and south and east of Havelock North and the Heretaunga Plains.
Mohaka Ward	The general electoral population from the rural area of Hastings District north of the Ngaruroro River and west of the Heretaunga Plains.
Māori Ward	
Takitimu Ward	The Māori electoral population from across the entire Hastings District.

The population that each member will represent is as follows:

Ward	Population # (2018 census) (June 2020 pop'n estimates)	Members	Population per member
General Wards			
General Electoral Population			
Flaxmere Ward	6,830	1	6,830
Hastings-Havelock North Ward	43,200	7	6,171
Heretaunga Ward	10,600	2	5,300
Kahurānaki Ward	5,250	1	5,250
Mohaka Ward	5,780	1	5,780
Total General Wards	71,600	12	5,967 Avg
Māori Ward			
Māori Electoral Population			
Takitimu Ward	16,400	3	5,467
Total All Wards	88,000	15	

#Difference in Statistics NZ rounding

Note: The number of Māori ward Councillors is set by a formula stipulated in the Local Electoral Act 2001. Based on the size of the Māori electoral population and total electoral population, with Hastings District Council proposing to elect a total of 15 Councillors from wards, three of those Councillors must be elected from the Māori ward.

In accordance with section 19V(2), Local Electoral Act 2001 the population that each general ward member represents must be within the range of 5,967 +/- 10% (6,564 to 5,370), unless particular community of interest considerations justify otherwise.

The representation of the Flaxmere Ward falls outside the stipulated range as it is under-represented at 14.46% deviation from the average population per councillor. The Council considers that achieving compliance with the +/-10% range in relation to the Flaxmere Ward would require either merging the Ward into the Hastings-Havelock Ward or shifting a significant part of the ward into either the Hastings-Havelock Ward or the Heretaunga Ward. The former approach would limit effective representation of the Flaxmere community of interest by uniting it with a much larger set of communities of interests with few commonalities of interest. The Flaxmere community of interest would become diffused among a much larger population. The latter approach would limit effective representation of communities of interest by dividing the Flaxmere community of interest between two wards.

The representation for the Heretaunga Ward falls outside the stipulated range as it is over-represented at -11.18% deviation from the average population per councillor. The Council considers that achieving compliance with the +/-10% range for the Heretaunga Ward would require adding parts of other communities of interest (likely urban and/or rural) to the Ward which would limit effective representation of communities of interest by uniting within the Heretaunga Ward communities of interest with few commonalities of interest. It would also limit effective representation of communities of interest by dividing the urban and/or rural communities of interest from which those part communities of interest would be drawn.

The representation for the Kahurānaki Ward falls outside of the stipulated range as it is over-represented at -12.02% deviation from the average population per councillor. The Council considers that achieving compliance with the +/-10% range for the Kahurānaki Ward would require adding parts of other communities of interest (from the Heretaunga Ward) to the Ward which would limit effective representation of communities of interest by dividing the horticultural and Heretaunga Plains communities of interest from which those part communities of interest would be drawn.

Community Board Representation

The Council resolved to retain the Hastings District Rural Community Board. No other Community Boards are proposed to be introduced.

Community Board	Area of Community
Hastings District Rural Community Board	The general and Māori electoral population of the Mohaka and Kahurānaki Wards.

The Hastings District Rural Community Board will elect four members.

It is proposed that there will be three Councillors appointed to the Board (rather than two as per the previous arrangements). **These will be:**

Community Board	Number of Members Appointed from Which Ward
Hastings District Rural Community Board	One Member appointed from the Mohaka Ward
	One Member appointed from the Kahurānaki Ward
	One Member appointed from the Takitimu Ward

The community will be divided into four for electoral purposes. **The four subdivisions will be:**

Subdivision	Area of Subdivision
Tūtira Subdivision	Subdivision of the Mohaka Ward
Kaweka Subdivision	Subdivision of the Mohaka Ward
Maraekākaho Subdivision	Subdivision of the Poukawa Ward
Poukawa Subdivision	Subdivision of the Poukawa Ward

The population that the members of each subdivision will represent is shown below:

Subdivision	Population # (2018 census)	Members	Population per member
Tūtira Subdivision	3,090	1	3,090
Mohaka Subdivision	3,220	1	3,220
Maraekākaho Subdivision	2,890	1	2,890
Poukawa Subdivision	3,370	1	3,370
Total	12,570	4	3,143 Avg

The population each member of the Hastings District Rural Community Board represents falls within the range of 3,143 +/-10% (3,457 – 2,829) in accordance with section 19V(2), Local Electoral Act.

There are a number of boundary adjustments proposed affecting some of the General Wards and Rural Community Board electoral subdivisions. Refer to the detailed proposal.

Further Information

Relevant information is available on Council's website: www.hastingsdc.govt.nz.

Subject to Covid restrictions, copies of the detailed proposal including Council's resolution and maps setting out the areas of the proposed wards, communities and subdivisions may be viewed and obtained from:

- Customer Services Centre, Hastings District Council Civic Administration Building, 207 Lyndon Road East, Hastings
- Flaxmere Library
- Hastings Library
- Havelock North Library

Any queries regarding Council's decision should be directed to the **Deputy Electoral Officer, Vicki Rusbatch, 06 871 500, vickir@hdc.govt.nz**.

Submissions are invited

Persons with an interest in the proposed representation arrangements are invited to make written submissions on the Council's representation proposal.

Submissions can be made via www.myvoicemychoice.co.nz

Submissions can also be forwarded to:

Deputy Electoral Officer
Hastings District Council, Private Bag 9002
Hastings 4156

Or via email: representationreview@hdc.govt.nz

Submissions must be received by Council no later than 1 October 2021.

Nigel Bickle,
Chief Executive, 30 August 2021