

Initial proposal for representation arrangements for the 2019 local elections

On 27 March 2018, Horizons Regional Council reviewed its representation arrangements, and resolved that the following proposal apply for the local body elections to be held on 12 October 2019. The proposal is to continue the existing representation arrangements without change.

Council representation

It is proposed that Council comprises 12 members elected from six constituencies, reflecting communities of interest identified through factors including shared territorial authority political boundaries, identification with physical and topographical features and river catchments, and dependence on shared facilities and services including flood protection and drainage schemes.

Constituency	Description
Ruapehu	Ruapehu District and the parts of Waitomo and Stratford Districts in the Region
Wanganui	Whanganui District
Manawatu-Rangitikei	Rangitikei District, Manawatu District's current Feilding and Northern Manawatu Rural Ward, and the part of the Taupō District in the Region
Palmerston North	Palmerston North City
Horowhenua-Kairanga	Horowhenua District and Manawatu District's current Southern Manawatu Rural Ward
Tararua	Tararua District except the part of the District in the Greater Wellington Region

The population that each member will represent (rounded to the nearest hundred) is as follows:

Constituency	Population (2017 Statistics NZ estimate)	Members	Population per member
Ruapehu	12900	1	12900
Wanganui	44500	2	22250
Manawatu-Rangitikei	37400	2	18700
Palmerston North	87300	4	21825
Horowhenua-Kairanga	40300	2	20150
Tararua	17800	1	17800
Total	240300	12	20025

Section 19V(2) of the Local Electoral Act 2001 requires that the population each member represents must be in within the range of 20025 +/- 10% (18022–22028), unless particular community of interest considerations justify otherwise.

The representation of Ruapehu, Wanganui and Tararua Constituencies fall outside the stipulated range. Council considers that the existing arrangements are the most appropriate to ensure that Ruapehu, Wanganui and Tararua's communities of interest are effectively represented, and the arrangements do not create barriers to participation.

Further information

Council's resolution and the map setting out the areas of the proposed constituencies are available on Council's website: www.horizons.govt.nz (Current consultation). These may also be viewed at Regional House Palmerston North (11-15 Victoria Avenue) and Regional House Whanganui (181 Guyton Street). Any queries regarding Council's decision should be directed to Craig Grant (Electoral Officer) or Pen Tucker (Policy Analyst) by ringing Freephone 0508 800 800 or 06 9522 800.

To make a submission you can:

- Go to www.horizons.govt.nz (Current consultation) and submit online.
- Write your submission as a normal letter or fill out a submission form (available on Horizons' website) and post it to Freepost 217922, Horizons Regional Council, Private Bag 11025, Manawatu Mail Centre, Palmerston North 4442.
- Email your submission to submissions@horizons.govt.nz.
- Drop your submission off at Horizons' service centres.

Make sure you include your name, main contact phone number, full address, postcode, email address. Submissions must be received by Horizons Regional Council no later than **12 noon on Monday, 14 May 2018**.

Michael McCartney
CHIEF EXECUTIVE