

Horizons Regional Council

Initial proposal for representation arrangements for the 2022 local election

On 24 August 2021, Horizons Regional Council reviewed its representation arrangements, and resolved that the following proposal apply for the Council for the election to be held on 8 October 2022:

Council representation

It is proposed that Council comprises 14 members elected from 6 general and 2 Māori 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 located within the region.
Whanganui	Whanganui District.
Manawatū-Rangitikei	Manawatū District, all of Rangitikei District except the part located in the Hawkes' Bay Region, and the part of Taupō District within the region.
Palmerston North	Palmerston North City.
Horowhenua	Horowhenua District.
Tararua	Tararua District except the part of the district located in Greater Wellington Region.
Raki Māori (placeholder name)	All of Ruapehu District, Whanganui District and Manawatū District; all of Rangitikei District except the part located in the Hawkes' Bay Region; and those parts of Stratford District and Waitomo District located within the region.
Tonga Māori (placeholder name)	Palmerston North City, all of Horowhenua District, and all of Tararua District except the part located in Greater Wellington Region.

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

Constituency	Population (2021 Statistics NZ estimate)	Members	Population per member
General constituencies			
Ruapehu	9130	1	9130
Whanganui	39700	2	19850
Manawatū-Rangitikei	41800	2	20900
Palmerston North	80700	4	20175
Horowhenua	31000	2	15500
Tararua	16000	1	16000
Total general constituencies	218330	12	18194
Māori constituencies			

Raki Māori (placeholder name)	18280	1	18280
Tonga Māori (placeholder name)	17560	1	17560
Total Māori constituencies	35840	2	17920
Total	254170	14	

Section 19V(2) of the Local Electoral Act 2001 requires that the population each member represents for the general constituencies must be within the range of 18,194 +/- 10% (16,375–20,013), unless particular community of interest considerations justify otherwise. Section 19V(2) of the Local Electoral Act 2001 also requires that the population each member represents for the Māori constituencies must be within the range of 17,920 +/- 10% (16,128 – 19,712), unless particular community of interest considerations justify otherwise.

The representation of Ruapehu, Manawatū-Rangitīkei, Palmerston North, Horowhenua and Tararua Constituencies fall outside the stipulated range. Council considers that the existing arrangements are the most appropriate to ensure that Ruapehu, Manawatū-Rangitīkei, Palmerston North, Horowhenua 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 (Representation Review 2021). 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 Katharine Tongs (Governance Coordinator) by ringing Freephone 0508 800 800 or 06 9522 800.

To make a submission you can:

- Go to www.horizons.govt.nz (Representation Review 2021) 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, Manawatū Mail Centre, Palmerston North 4442.
- Email your submission to submissions@horizons.govt.nz.
- Drop your submission off at Horizons’ service centres (note that this option will only be available during Covid-19 alert levels 1 and 2).

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 **midnight on Sunday 10 October 2021**.

Michael McCartney
CHIEF EXECUTIVE