



## WELLINGTON REGIONAL COUNCIL

### FINAL PROPOSAL FOR REPRESENTATION ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE 2025 TRIENNIAL LOCAL ELECTIONS

On 31 October 2024, Wellington Regional Council considered the submissions received on its initial representation proposal and resolved its final representation proposal to apply for Council's elections to be held on 11 October 2025.

#### **Submission on initial representation proposal**

Two submissions were received on Council's initial representation proposal. The submissions contained common objections to the proposal, as follows:

- That a total of 11 members should be elected, being one member from the Māori Constituency, and 10 members from six general constituencies whose boundaries align with the current territorial authority boundaries (constituencies covering the areas of Kapiti Coast District; Porirua City; Wellington City; Lower Hutt City; Upper Hutt City; and Wairarapa districts); or, alternatively
- That Council's initial proposal should be adjusted to provide a second member for the Kāpiti Coast General Constituency, through a reduction in one member from either the Pōneke/Wellington General Constituency or the Te Awa Kairangi ki Tai/Lower Hutt General Constituency.

#### **Decision**

Having considered the matters raised in the submissions, Council resolved to adopt its initial representation proposal as its final representation proposal.

## Council's rejection of matters raised in submissions

Council rejected the matters raised in the submissions for the following reasons:

Alternative proposal	Description of alternative proposal	Reason for rejection of alternative proposal
1	That a total of 11 members should be elected, being one member from the Māori Constituency, and 10 members from six general constituencies whose boundaries align with the current territorial authority boundaries (constituencies covering the areas of Kapiti Coast District; Porirua City; Wellington City; Lower Hutt City; Upper Hutt City; and Wairarapa districts).	This alternative proposal would not enable effective representation for communities of interest in the regional context, taking into account the: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Geographic size and diversity of the Wellington Region, with its urban and rural areas</li> <li>• Diversity of Council's statutory functions</li> <li>• Need for efficient and effective governance of the Wellington Region</li> <li>• Enabling of community access to members and vice versa.</li> </ul>
2A	That Council's initial representation proposal should be amended to provide a second member for the Kāpiti Coast General Constituency, through a reduction in one member from the Pōneke/Wellington General Constituency.	This alternative proposal would not provide effective representation for communities of interest in the regional context and fair representation for electors.
2B	That Council's initial representation proposal should be amended to provide a second member for the Kāpiti Coast General Constituency, through a reduction in one member from the Te Awa Kairangi ki Tai/Lower Hutt General Constituency.	This alternative proposal would not provide effective representation for communities of interest in the regional context and fair representation for electors.

## Final representation proposal

It is proposed that Council comprise 14 members, with one member elected from one Māori constituency and 13 members elected from six general constituencies.

The seven constituencies reflect the following identified communities of interest:

<b>Constituency</b>	<b>Communities of interest</b>
Te Upoko o te Ika a Māui Māori Constituency	The area of the Wellington Region
Kāpiti Coast General Constituency	The area of Kapiti Coast District
Pōneke/Wellington General Constituency	The area of Wellington City, excluding the area of the Tawa Community
Porirua-Tawa General Constituency	The area of Porirua City and the area of the Tawa Community of Wellington City
Te Awa Kairangi ki Tai/Lower Hutt General Constituency	The area of Lower Hutt City
Te Awa Kairangi ki Uta/Upper Hutt General Constituency	The area of Upper Hutt City
Wairarapa General Constituency	The area of Carterton District, Masterton District and South Wairarapa District, and that part of Tararua District that falls within the Wellington Region

The population that each member will represent is as follows:

<b>Māori Constituency</b>	<b>Māori Electoral Population</b>	<b>Number of members</b>	<b>Māori Electoral Population per member</b>
Te Upoko o te Ika a Māui	45,000	1	45,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>45,000</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>45,000</b>

<b>General Constituency</b>	<b>General Electoral Population</b>	<b>Number of members</b>	<b>General Electoral Population per member</b>
Kāpiti Coast	53,400	1	53,400
Pōneke/Wellington	192,100	5	38,420
Porirua-Tawa	68,100	2	34,050
Te Awa Kairangi ki Tai/Lower Hutt	101,300	3	33,767
Te Awa Kairangi ki Uta/Upper Hutt	44,400	1	44,400
Wairarapa	46,000	1	46,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>505,300</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>38,869</b>

In accordance with section 19V(2) of the Local Electoral Act 2001, the population that each general constituency member represents must be within the range of +/-10 percent of the regional average general electoral population of 38,869 (i.e., 34,982 to 42,756), unless particular community of interest considerations justify otherwise.

Only the representation of Pōneke/Wellington General Constituency falls within the stipulated range. Council considers that in order to provide effective representation for the distinct communities of interest in Kāpiti Coast, Porirua-Tawa, Te Awa Kairangi ki Tai/Lower Hutt, Te Awa Kairangi ki Uta/Upper Hutt, and Wairarapa, it must depart from the population formula for those general constituencies.

## **Appeals**

Any person who made a submission on Council's initial representation proposal may lodge an appeal against Council's decision. An appeal must raise only those matters raised in that person's submission.

Appeals must be made in writing to:

Email: [repreview@gw.govt.nz](mailto:repreview@gw.govt.nz)

Post: Representation Review, Greater Wellington Regional Council, PO Box 11646, Wellington 6142.

Deliver: Representation Review, Greater Wellington Regional Council, 100 Cuba Street, Te Aro, Wellington.

Appeals must be received no later than Tuesday, 26 November 2024.

Please state your name and provide your personal contact details (email address and phone number) in your appeal.

The Local Electoral Act 2001 provides that Greater Wellington shall forward all appeals received by it to the Local Government Commission. The Local Government Commission must then determine the representation arrangements for Council for the 2025 triennial local elections.