

# Waikato District Council 2021 Representation Review Final Proposal

Please be notified that the appeals/objections period for the Waikato District Council 2021 Representation Review Final Proposal opens on 1 October 2021 and will close at 5.00pm on 3 November 2021.

## Submissions

As required by the Local Electoral Act 2001 (LEA), the Waikato District Council has considered submissions it received on its Initial Proposal regarding representation arrangements that will apply for at least the 2022 triennial local elections.

In summary, of the 240 submissions received:

- 25 submitters indicated their support of the Initial Proposal;
- 175 submitters indicated that they did not support the Initial Proposal;
- 13 submitters gave no indication (or it was not clear to determine) if they did or did not support the Initial Proposal;
- 56 submitters indicated that they wished to speak at the hearing for the Initial Proposal (of which 37 submitters spoke at the scheduled hearing).

## Final Proposal

At its meeting on 28 September 2021 the Council resolved, in accordance with section 19N(1)(b) of the Local Electoral Act 2001 and having considered the 240 submissions received on the 2021 Representation Review Initial Proposal, to amend its Initial Proposal to the following 2021 Representation Review Final Proposal for at least the 2022 triennial local elections:

The Waikato District Council to comprise of:

- the Mayor elected at large (by the whole district);
- 13 councillors, comprising two Maaori ward councillors and 11 general ward councillors elected from 10 wards; and that
- Waikato District Council be divided into 10 wards, these being:

Ward and number of councillors	Communities of interest	Geographic Reference
<b>Te Raki o te Takiwaa Maaori ward</b> One (1) Maaori ward councillor	Aka Aka, Buckland, Glen Afton, Glen Murray, Hampton Downs, Hunua Ranges (portion), Huntly, Karioitahi, Mangatawhiri, Mangatangi, Maramarua, Mercer, Meremere, Miranda, Naike, Ohinewai, Onewhero, Otatau Pokeno, Port Waikato, Pukemiro, Rangiriri, Te Kauwhata, Tuakau Waerenga, Waiterimu-Matahuru and Whangamarino	The northern part of the Waikato district, from the east and west of Huntly up to the Auckland boundary in the North and Hauraki and Matamata-Piako districts in the East.
<b>Te Tonga o te Takiwaa Maaori ward</b> One (1) Maaori ward councillor	Eureka, Gordonton, Glen Massey, Hautapu, Horsham Downs, Makomako, Matangi, Okete, Ngaruawahia, Newstead, Puketaha, Pukemoremore, Raglan, Rotokauri, Rotongaro, Rotowaru, Ruapuke, Tamahere, Tauhei, Taupiri, Tauwhare, Te Akau, Te Kowhai, Te Mata, Te Uku, Waingaro, Whatawhata and Whitikahu	The southern part of the Waikato district, from the east of Taupiri along the Mangawara Stream and west of Taupiri to the Coast, down to the southern boundaries of the district bordering Matamata-Piako and Waipa Districts and Hamilton City
<b>Awaroa-Maramarua general ward</b> One (1) general ward councillor	Aka Aka, Hunua Ranges (portion) Mangatawhiri, Mangatangi, Maramarua, Miranda, Otatau and Waiuku-Karioitahi	The rural communities in the northeast and west of the district, bordering Auckland Council in the north and Hauraki District in the east
<b>Huntly general ward</b> One (1) general ward councillor	Huntly and Ohinewai	The Huntly township and surrounds
<b>Newcastle-Ngaruawahia general ward</b> Two (2) general ward councillors	Hopuhopu, Horotiu, Horsham Downs, Ngaruawahia, Rotokauri, Taupiri, Te Kowhai and Whatawhata	The areas along the Waipa River and the portion of the Waikato River between Taupiri and Hamilton City
<b>Tamahere-Woodlands general ward</b> Two (2) general ward councillors	Eureka, Gordonton, Hautapu, Matangi, Newstead, Puketaha, Pukemoremore, Tamahere and Tauwhare	The southeastern part of the district bordering Matamata-Piako and Waipa Districts and Hamilton City Council in the west/south/east
<b>Tuakau-Pokeno general ward</b> Two (2) general ward councillors	Harrisville, Kellyville, Mercer, Pokeno, Tuakau and Whangarata.	The northern part of the district, the Pokeno and Tuakau townships and surrounds bordering Auckland Council in the north
<b>Waerenga-Hukanui general ward</b> One (1) general ward councillor	Hampton Downs, Meremere, Orini-Tauhei, Rangiriri, Te Hoe, Te Kauwhata, Waerenga, Waiterimu-Matahuru and Whangamarino	The eastern part of the district bordering Hauraki and Matamata-Piako Districts Council to the east
<b>Western Districts general ward</b> One (1) general ward councillor	Glen Afton, Glen Murray, Matira, Naike, Onewhero, Port Waikato, Pukemiro, Pukekawa-Opuatia, Rotongaro, Rotowaru, Renown, Ruawaro, Te Akau, Te Kohanga, Waikaretu, Waingaro and Waikowai	The northwestern part of the district from Whaingaroa Harbour up to the Waikato River
<b>Whaingaroa general ward</b> One (1) general ward councillor	Makomako, Okete, Pakoka Landing, Raglan, Ruapuke, Te Mata, Te Uku, Waitetuna and Whale Bay.	The southwestern part of the district, on the Southern side of Whaingaroa Harbour to the boundaries of Waipa District Council in the southeast and Otorohanga District Council in the south

iv. the population of each ward be as follows:

Ward	Pop	Crs	Average	Fits Rule	% Variation
Awaroa-Maramarua general ward	5,750	1	5,750	Yes	-6.68%
Huntly general ward	6,210	1	6,210	Yes	0.78%
Newcastle-Ngaruawahia general ward	13,450	2	6,725	Yes	9.14%
Tamahere-Woodlands general ward	13,350	2	6,675	Yes	8.33%
Te Raki o te Takiwaa Maaori ward	7,831	1	7,415	Yes	-6.00%
Te Tonga o te Takiwaa Maaori ward	7,040	1	7,415	Yes	6.00%
Tuakau-Pokeno general ward	11,750	2	5,875	Yes	-4.65%
Waerenga-Hukanui general ward	6,500	1	6,500	Yes	5.49%
Western Districts general ward	5,070	1	5,070	No	-17.72%
Whaingaroa general ward	5,700	1	5,700	Yes	-7.49%

1. (67,780/11 general ward councillors = 6,161 +/- 10% = 5,544 - 6,777)
2. (15,140/2 Maaori ward councillors = 7,570 +/- 10% = 6,813 - 8,327)

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1 October 2021  
G J Ion, Chief Executive

0800 492 452  
www.waikatodistrict.govt.nz  
www.facebook.com/WaikatoDistrictCouncil

iv. there be 32 community board members elected from six community boards, these being:

Community Board	Communities	Geographic Reference
Huntly community board	Huntly	The Huntly community board area was extended in the initial proposal to incorporate a mesh block in the north west
Ngaruawahia community board	Ngaruawahia and Horotiu	The current Ngaruawahia community board area with slight boundary adjustments to incorporate new development at River Road and reinstate the Horotiu section of the board area
Raglan community board, with rural and urban subdivisions	Raglan, Okete, Te Mata and Whale Bay.	With extended boundaries to incorporate three neighbouring mesh blocks
Rural and Port Waikato community board, with north and south subdivisions	Port Waikato, Onewhero, Pukekawa, Glen Murray, Naike and Waikaretu	The rural districts south of the river to Naike and across to Waikaretu
Taupiri community board	Taupiri	The current Taupiri community board area
Tuakau community board	Tuakau	The current Tuakau township

vi. the number of elected and appointed members for each community board be as follows:

Community Board	Elected Members	Appointed Members
Huntly community board	6	1 Huntly general ward councillor and 1 Te Raki o te Takiwaa Maaori ward councillor
Ngaruawahia community board	6	1 Newcastle- Ngaruawahia general ward councillor and 1 Te Tonga o te Takiwaa Maaori ward councillor
Rural and Port Waikato community board consisting of two subdivisions, being:	4 in total	1 Western Districts general ward councillor and 1 Te Raki o te Takiwaa Maaori ward councillor
	• North subdivision	2
	• South subdivision	2
Raglan community board consisting of two subdivisions, being:	6 in total	1 Whaingaroa general ward councillor and 1 Te Tonga o te Takiwaa Maaori ward councillor
	• Urban subdivision	4
	• Rural subdivision	2
Taupiri community board	4	1 Newcastle-Ngaruawahia general ward councillor and 1 Te Tonga o te Takiwaa Maaori ward councillor
Tuakau community board	6	1 Tuakau-Pokeno general ward councillor and 1 Te Raki o te Takiwaa Maaori ward councillor

vii. the population and names of each subdivision be as follows:

Community Board	Pop	Mbrs	Ave	Fits Rule	% Variation
Rural and Port Waikato North subdivision	2,460	2	1,230	Yes	+8.1%
Rural and Port Waikato South subdivision	2,090	2	1,045	Yes	-8.1%
Raglan Urban subdivision	3,780	4	945	Yes	-5.8%
Raglan Rural subdivision	1,580	2	790	No	-11.6%

In accordance with section 19V(2) of the Local Electoral Act 2001, the population that each councillor represents must be within the population range of 5,544-6,777 (in general wards) and 6,813-8,327 (in Maaori wards) plus or minus 10% (being the total general electoral population of 67,780 divided between 11 general ward councillors and the total Maaori electoral population of 15,140 divided between two Maaori ward councillors).

Similarly, the population that each community board member represents where a community board is subdivided, must be within the population range of 804-982 (for the Raglan community board) and 1,023-1,250 (for the Rural and Port Waikato community board).

It is noted the Western Districts general ward and the Raglan community board (Rural subdivision) will deviate from the +/-10% fair representation rule as set out in the Local Electoral Act 2001. Accordingly this will be an automatic appeal under section 19V(5) of the Local Electoral Act 2001 and the Final Proposal must be referred to the Local Government Commission for determination after the close of the appeal/objection period.

## Reasons

Reasons for amendments to the Initial Proposal are to:

- split the Te Takiwaa Maaori ward into a northern and southern ward to ensure fair representation for Maaori (ensuring both representatives do not come from one area as supported by submissions);
- alter the general ward boundaries and names to ensure:
  - retention/increased representation for the rural communities of interest;
  - ensure the reduction of splits in communities of interest that were split by mesh blocks in the Initial Proposal;
  - retain, where possible multi-councillor wards; and
  - adhere to the +/-10% margin for communities to ensure fair and effective representation (number of objections to splitting of communities by mesh blocks in the Initial Proposal rather than focussing on communities of interest as identified in pre-consultation material);
- create a new Rural and Port Waikato community board with two subdivisions (submissions supported creation of a rural community board if the status quo could not be retained and subdivisions created to ensure fair representation across the board area);
- extend the Raglan community board area to include the communities of Okete and Te Mata (submissions received supporting the community board request in these areas, but in doing so to ensure retention of a rural voice at all levels of governance, subdivisions being created for the urban and rural areas); and
- reduce the number of elected members to four (currently six) on the Taupiri community board (feedback received from submitters regarding over representation in small urban communities, yet minimal representation for rural communities).

The Council has not rejected any submissions received on the Initial Proposal.

## Notice of appeal and objection process

Any person who made a submission on the Waikato District Council 2021 Representation Review Initial Proposal may lodge an appeal against the Council's Final Proposal in accordance with section 19O of the Local Electoral Act 2001. The appeal must contain issues/matters raised in the appellant's submission on the Initial Proposal.

As the Council has chosen to amend its Initial Proposal, any person who is opposed to the Final Proposal may lodge an objection against it in accordance with section 19P of the Local Electoral Act 2001. The objection lodged must identify the matters to which it relates.

Appeals and objections must be made in writing to the Waikato District Council by **5pm 3 November 2021** and must include your name and contact details.

Appeals and objections are to be:

**Emailed to:** consult@waicd.govt.nz  
Subject line: Representation Review - Final Proposal

**Posted to:** ATTN: Corporate Planning, Waikato District Council, Private Bag 544, Ngaruawahia 3742

**Delivered to:** Any Council office or Library

**If you have any queries/require further information about this notice, please contact Gaylene Kanawa on 0800 492 452 or visit the consultation page on Council's website www.waikatodistrict.govt.nz/sayit.**