



## Westland District Council

# Final proposal for the representation arrangements for the 2025 local elections

### Submissions

On 27 June 2024 the Westland District Council considered the submissions received on its initial proposal regarding the representation arrangements for the Council and its constituent community boards to apply for the local elections to be held on 12 October 2025.

The Council received 5 submissions on its proposal. Two submissions were in favour of the Council's proposal. Two submissions contained objections to various elements of the proposal, and a further submission did not address the elements of the representation review, as follows:

- Two submissions asked to reduce the number of Councillors by 1 in both the Hokitika Ward and Northern Ward and make full time positions. However, other than this change agreed with the initial proposal.
- One submission did not address the elements of the representation review.

## Final Proposal

Having considered all of the objections, the Council resolved to adopt its initial proposal as the Council's final proposal:

The Council rejected the other matters raised in objections for the following reasons:

- To change the number of Councillors would require boundary changes to ensure that representation for each ward remains within the +/- 10% rule.
- There is a cost to changing boundary lines.
- Currently elected member remuneration does not reflect full time representation.

Therefore the final proposal is as follows:

### Council Representation

It is proposed that the Council comprise 8 members elected from three wards, and the mayor. The three wards reflect the following identified communities of interest:

Northern Ward	All that part of Westland District north of the Mikonui River but excluding Hokitika Ward.
Hokitika Ward	All that part of Westland including the town of Hokitika, the area north to Three Mile and including the areas to the east known as Blue Spur and Brickfield as far as Pine Tree Road.
Southern Ward	All that area of Westland south of the Mikonui River.

The population that each member will represent is as follows:

Ward	Population	Members	Cr/Population	Variation
Northern Ward	3340	3	1113	101%
Hokitika Ward	3300	3	1100	99%
Southern Ward	2170	2	1085	98%
Total	8810	8	1101	100%

Therefore maintaining the +/- 10% rule in accordance with section 19V(2) of the Local Electoral Act 2001.

### Community Board Representation

It is proposed that no community boards will be established. Council has a good relationship with community groups in the district which serves for fair representation without the need for community boards.

## Appeals

Any person who made a submission on the Council's initial proposal may lodge an appeal against the Council's decision. An appeal must relate to the matters raised in that person's submission.

Appeals must be received by Council no later than 4pm, Friday 2 August 2024.

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## KEY DATES

**APPEALS OPEN:** 9am, Wednesday 3 July 2024

**APPEALS CLOSE:** 4pm, Friday 2 August 2024

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**ONLINE:** Visit our website at [www.westlanddc.govt.nz](http://www.westlanddc.govt.nz).

**IN WRITING** You can make a written appeal by post or by sending us an email.

**POST:** Westland District Council, 36 Weld Street, Hokitika 7811

**EMAIL:** [consult@westlanddc.govt.nz](mailto:consult@westlanddc.govt.nz)

**OVER THE PHONE:** If sending an email is not an option, you can make an appeal by calling Council on the number below.

**PHONE:** 03 756 9010

**FREEPHONE:** 0800 474 834

Please note, the appeals will be publicly available on the council's website, through inclusion in council agendas, and/or retrievable by request under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987. Contact details will be redacted under the Privacy Act 2020.

The Officer for enquiries is Group Manager, Corporate Services and Risk Assurance: Lesley Crichton.