

Ōtorohanga District Council

Initial proposal for representation arrangements for the 2022 local elections

On 17 August 2021 the Ōtorohanga District Council reviewed its representation arrangements, pursuant to section 19H of the Local Electoral Act 2001, and resolved that the following proposal apply for the Council and Community Boards for the elections to be held on 8 October 2022:

Council Representation

It is proposed that the Council comprise 9 members elected from six wards, and the Mayor elected at-large.

The six wards reflect the following identified communities of interest:

Ward	Communities of Interest
Kāwhia/Tihiroa Ward	The communities of Kawhia and Aotea together with, but not limited to, the rural areas of Oparau, Hauturu, Ngutunui, Tihiroa, Te Kawa and Honikiwi.
Kio Kio/Korakonui Ward	The area comprising, but not limited to, the rural areas of Kio Kio, Tokanui Crossroads, Korakonui and Ngahape.
Ōtorohanga Ward	The community of Ōtorohanga which covers the township of Ōtorohanga.
Waipā Ward	The area comprising, but not limited to, the rural areas of Rangiatea, Maihihi, Paewhenua, Whawharua, Otewa and Rewa Rewa.
Wharepuhunga Ward	The area comprising, but not limited to, the rural areas of Waikeria, Wharepuhunga, Ngaroma, Arohena and Ranginui.
Ōtorohanga Māori Ward	A district wide ward that reflects the community of interest for Māori electors and those in the Māori community.

The population that each member will represent is as follows:

Wards	Population*	Members	Population per member	% Deviation from the average
General				
Kāwhia/Tihiroa Ward	2,590	2	1,295	6.50
Kio Kio/Korakonui Ward	1,330	1	1,330	9.38
Ōtorohanga Ward	2,270	2	1,135	-6.66
Waipā Ward	1,150	1	1,150	-5.43
Wharepuhunga Ward	1,170	1	1,170	-3.78
Total General	8,510	7	average 1,216	
Māori				
Ōtorohanga Māori Ward	2,180	2		
Total		9		

* Department of Statistics population estimates as at 30 June 2020

In accordance with section 19V(2) of the *Local Electoral Act 2001* the population that each member represents must be within the range of 1,216 +/- 10% (1,094 to 1,338), unless particular community of interest considerations justify otherwise. All five general wards are within the stipulated range.

Community Board Representation

It is proposed that two community boards will be elected.

The two community boards will be:

Community Boards	Area of Community
Kāwhia	The townships of Aotea and Kāwhia.
Ōtorohanga	The township of Ōtorohanga.

The Kāwhia Community Board will have four elected members. The Kāwhia Community will have two subdivisions for electoral purposes. Kāwhia Subdivision will have 3 elected members and Aotea Subdivision will have 1 elected member. The Council will appoint 1 member of the Kāwhia/Tihiroa Ward to the Board.

Electoral Subdivisions	Population*	Members	Population per member	% Deviation from the average
Kāwhia Subdivision	410	3	137	16.10
Aotea Subdivision	60	1	60	-49.15
Total	470	4	average 118	

In accordance with section 19V(2) of the *Local Electoral Act 2001* the population that each member represents must be within the range of 118 +/- 10% (1,06 to 130), unless particular community of interest considerations justify otherwise. Both the electoral subdivisions wards are outside the stipulated range. The Council believes that to provide effective representation of the Aotea community strict compliance with the rule is not appropriate because Aotea is effectively an island/isolated community physically separate from Kāwhia, the percentage variance is considered to be appropriate and the estimated usually resident population does not reflect the number of ratepayers in the area.

The Ōtorohanga Community Board will have 4 members elected at large. The Council will appoint 2 members of the Ōtorohanga Ward to the Board.

Further Information

Information about the representation arrangements, Council's resolution and maps setting out the areas of the proposed wards and communities can be viewed at <https://www.otodc.govt.nz/home/consultations/representation-review>

Any queries regarding the Council's decision should be directed to *Graham Bunn, Group Manager* Corporate, phone 07 873 4374 or email grahamb@otodc.govt.nz

Submissions are invited

Persons with an interest in the proposed representation arrangements are invited to make written submissions on the Council's representation proposal.

Submission can be made online at <https://www.otodc.govt.nz/home/consultations/representation-review>

Submissions must be received by Council no later than 5.00 p.m. on *24 September 2021*.

Submitters should specify whether they want to be heard by the Council.

Tanya Winter
Chief Executive
Ōtorohanga District Council
24 August 2021