



Media Release

Friday 4 September 2015

## Consultation open on local representation

Consultation is now open on a proposal for future local representation for Selwyn District.

The Council's proposal for consultation keeps the existing four wards and 11 councillors, and retains the Malvern Community Board.

The Representation Review looks at possible changes to the number of wards, ward boundaries, the number of councillors, whether councillors should be elected across the whole district or within wards, and whether there should be community boards.

Initial consultation on four options for councillor representation and the number of wards took place during July, involving public meetings and online feedback. A total of 225 submissions were received as part of this process, and 45 members of the public attended public meetings.

The option to retain 11 councillors and four wards received the most public support with 60% of submissions in favour of this option, with the next highest level of support being 19% for the option of three wards with 10 elected representatives. There was significant support for the retention of the Malvern Community Board.

In the proposal out for consultation, some of the Burnham area and Burnham Military Camp move from the Selwyn Central ward to the Ellesmere ward, but other ward boundaries remain largely the same. It is proposed that the Selwyn Central ward is renamed Central.

The Council is also proposing to keep the current first past the post system for local elections, and to elect Selwyn's mayor at large (from across the district). The Council is not proposing to retain the Selwyn Central Community Board in the future.

Selwyn Mayor Kelvin Coe says it is important for the district to have representation which represents local views and enables the Council to function effectively.

"We think the proposed structure does both of these things but we would welcome submissions from the public sharing their views on the proposal."

The representation arrangements adopted as a result of the current review would apply from the 2016 local elections.

The Council is inviting public submissions on its representation proposal. Submissions are open until 5pm, **Monday 5 October**. Submissions forms and more information are available online at [www.selwyn.govt.nz/representation](http://www.selwyn.govt.nz/representation). This information is also available from Council libraries and service centres.

Councils are required to review representation arrangements at least once every six years. Selwyn District Council last undertook a review in 2009.

Ends

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