

Public Notice: Final Proposal for Representation Arrangements for the 2025 local elections

Submissions

On 26 September 2024 the Council received and 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 11 October 2025.

The Council received 616 submissions on its proposal. Three of these did not meet the threshold.

Of the 613 submissions analysed, 100 submissions were in favour of the Council's proposal to change ward boundaries and reduce the number of councillors from ten to eight. 498 submissions were not in favour of the proposal to change ward boundaries and reduce the number of councillors from ten to eight. The main feedback not in support of the proposal on this matter was related to the size of the proposed ward 1, and the concerns around representation of rural areas given their diverse needs.

- Those who supported the initial proposal felt it would ensure fair and equitable representation and support a modern and adaptable approach therefore fulfilling the requirements of the act. There was also support for boundary changes to better reflect current and future population and the efficiencies they believed would come from a reduction in councillors.
- Those opposed contained similar themes but in the reverse. Notably there was concern for rural representation due to the large geographical size and diverse needs of the proposed ward 1. They felt reducing councillors would create more work and inefficiencies from having to travel larger distances. There was additional concern around urban versus rural representation being impacted.

In relation to the proposal to disestablish the Malvern Community Board, we received 607 submissions. Of these 100 submitters were in support of the proposal, and 496 submitters did not support the proposal.

- Those who supported the initial proposal did not think it was fair to have one community board and could lead to over representation. There were concerns from this group around community disengagement from previous dysfunction that was demonstrated through poor voter turnout. There were views that both modern communication and other means such as community advisors or groups better support local issues.
- Those opposed were concerned about losing their community voice and felt that removing the community board would result in less community engagement and participation. They felt community boards supported councillors in their ward and given the proposed reduction of a councillor in ward 1 and large geographic area would be necessary to ensure effective representation.

In relation to the proposal to dual name the wards we received 591 submissions. Of these 185 submissions supported the use of dual names and 396 did not support the proposal.

- Those who supported the initial proposal felt it was time for supporting biculturalism and saw this as a way of acknowledging the district's history and moving forward.
- Those who were opposed cited concern at associated costs, potential confusion at having two names, and a general preference for English names for familiarity and ease of use. There was sentiment within this group to have English names first ahead of Māori if it was to be adopted.

Final Proposal

Having considered all the objections, the Council resolved to adopt a separate proposal as the Council's final proposal. The changes made are as below:

- Maintain the status quo with the current ward boundaries and maintain four wards.
- Increase the number of elected members from 10 to 11
- Maintain the Malvern Community Board
- Adopt dual names for the four wards

The Council considers these changes for the following reasons:

- It addresses the population growth across the district and maintains the +/- 10% rule
- It responds to feedback from the community within consultation requesting greater representation to reflect the region's growth.
- It ensures rural representation for our Malvern communities and recognises the large geographic area within this ward through maintaining the community board.

Therefore, the final proposal is as follows.

Council Representation

It is proposed that the Council comprise 11 members elected from four wards, and the mayor.

The four wards will have dual names as detailed below and will reflect the following communities of interest:

Ward	Communities of Interest
Te Waihora Ellesmere	Brookside, Burham, Burham Military Camp, Doyleston, Dunsandel, Greenpark, Irwell, Killinchy, Lakeside, Leeston, Mead, Motukarara, Rakaia Huts, Sedgemere, Southbridge, Taumutu, West Rolleston
Tawera Malvern	Arthurs Pass, Castle Hill, Coalgate, Darfield, Glenroy, Glentunnel, Greendale, Halkett, Hororata, Kirwee, Lake Coleridge, Sheffield, Springfield, West Melton, Waddington, Whitecliffs, Windwhistle
Kā Mānia Rolleston	Rolleston (excluding West Rolleston)
Kā Puna Springs	Ladbrooks, Lincoln, Prebbleton, Springston, Tai Tapu, Weedons

Updated 5pm 20 November 2024

The population that each member will represent is as follows:

Ward	Population	Members	Population per Member
Tawera Malvern	15,510	2	7,755
Kā Mānia Rolleston	29,980	4	7,495
Te Waihora Ellesmere	13,420	2	6,710
Kā Puna Springs	22,330	3	7,443
TOTAL	81240	11	7,385

In accordance with section 19V(2), *Local Electoral Act 2001* the population that each member represents must be within the range of 7,385 +/- 10% (6,647-8,123), unless particular community of interest considerations justify otherwise.

Community Board Representation

It is proposed that one community board be elected for the Malvern area

Community Board	Area of Community
Tawera Malvern Community Board	Arthurs Pass, Castle Hill, Coalgate, Darfield, Glenroy, Glentunnel, Greendale, Halkett, Hororata, Kirwee, Lake Coleridge, Sheffield, Springfield, West Melton, Waddington, Whitecliffs, Windwhistle

Updated 5pm 20 November 2024

The Tawera Malvern Community Board will elect five members. The Tawera Malvern Community Board will be subdivided for electoral purposes as follows:

Subdivision	Areas of Subdivision
Hawkins	Darfield, Kirwee, Sheffield, Waddington
Tawera	Arthurs Pass, Castle Hill, Coalgate, Glenroy, Glentunnel, Greendale, Hororata, Lake Coleridge, Springfield, Whitecliffs, Windwhistle
West Melton	Halkett, West Melton

Updated 5pm 20 November 2024

The population that the members of each subdivision will represent is shown below:

Subdivision	Population	Members	Population per member
Hawkins Subdivision	6,460	2	3,230
Tawera Subdivision	3,050	1	3,050
West Melton Subdivision	6,000	2	3,000
TOTAL	15,510	5	3,102

The population each member of the Tawera Malvern Community Board represents falls within the range of 3,102 +/- 10% (2,792 – 3412) in accordance with section 19V(2), *Local Electoral Act*.

Appeals and Objections:

Any person or organisation 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.

Any person who objects to the final proposal may lodge an objection to the Council's final proposal. Any objection must identify the matters to which the objection relates.

Appeals [and objections] must be made in writing and must be received by Council no later than Tuesday 3 December 2024.



Appeals [and objections] are to be forwarded to:

Attention: Therese Davel, Deputy Electoral Officer

Selwyn District Council, PO Box 90, Rolleston 7643.

representation@selwyn.govt.nz

Next Steps:

The Local Government Commission will consider any appeals and objections and make a determination by 10 April 2025.