

# It's up to you

Have your say on the future  
representation of Carterton

# Representation Review: It's up to you.

Have your say on the future representation of Carterton.


We want your ideas on the future of representation in Carterton. We need to ensure there is fit-for-purpose, fair, and effective representation for individuals and communities of interest in our District, and that they have their voices heard at Council level.



A Representation Review is a statutory requirement for all councils and must be done every six years.

The Review includes community consideration of Council representation arrangements, number of wards, ward boundaries, number of elected members, and the establishment of community boards.

## We have three options for your feedback

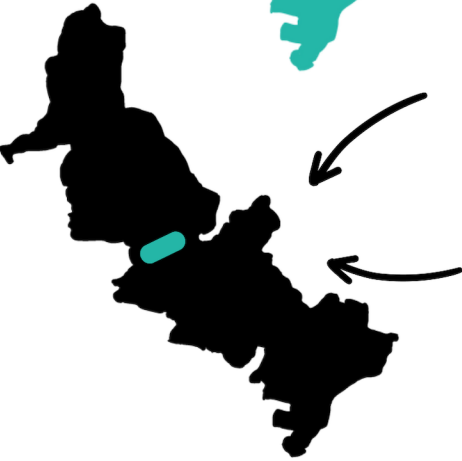


Maintain the status quo: eight Councillors elected At Large [to represent the District as a whole.]

**or....**

- An “urban” ward with five Councillors, and
- A “rural” ward of three Councillors

**or....**

- 
- One “urban” ward with three Councillors
  - Rural [two councillors]
  - Three “At Large” councillors.



However, we also want to hear how you feel you are being represented.

We welcome your feedback and ideas on our representation arrangements.

Visit [cdc.govt.nz/representationreview2024](https://cdc.govt.nz/representationreview2024) to find out more and have your say before **Sunday 26 May**.

# What's is the review? Why is it happening?

## What's is the review? Why is it happening?

We want to hear your thoughts on Carterton District Council elections for 2025 and 2028. We're required by law to hold a review of representation in our District every six years, and the next one is due now.



## Can we have more or fewer Councillors? Would fewer Councillors mean lower rates?

Part of the review considers the number of Councillors representing the District. Legislation allows councils to have between five and 29 councillors. Carterton has had eight councillors plus a mayor for a number of years now.

**Fewer Councillors would not mean lower rates. Councillors' pay and some expenses are covered by a pool determined independently by the Remuneration Authority. That pool stays the same regardless of the number of representatives.**



## Why do I need to know about the Review?

We need to ensure there is fair and effective representation for individuals and communities across Carterton.

**Representation is about understanding our community and how individuals and groups get their voice heard at Council.**

**It's important that we take the community's views into consideration when making these decisions. This preliminary consultation is your initial opportunity to contribute.**

Later, after Council notifies its Initial Proposal (in June) the Local Electoral Act 2001 gives individuals and community groups the right to make a formal written submission to Council on its proposed representation arrangements. They have the right to be heard if they wish.

**There is also the right to appeal or object to decisions on the proposed representation arrangements. The Local Government Commission will then make a binding decision.**

## What is a ward?

A ward is a specific area of a District or City council which represents a particular community of interest.

When looking at representation arrangements, we must ensure that the residents of any wards receive fair and effective representation. This includes reviewing the ward boundaries, the number of councillors, and ensuring that the population per councillor in each ward is within +/- 10% of the population per councillor across the district.

## Can we consider a Māori ward at this stage?

The Council confirmed in October 2023 that it would not establish a Māori ward for the 2025 election. That decision remains in place and is outside the scope of this part of the Representation Review.

## What happens next?

- The preliminary consultation on options is open until **Sunday 26 May**.
- On **June 5** Council will hold a public workshop to receive feedback and confirm the preferred option.
- On **June 26** Council will resolve to adopt its Initial Proposal.
- After that, the decision and the Initial Proposal will be publicly notified.
- The Initial Proposal will then be open for submissions. Submissions will close one month later.
- Hearings and deliberations will take place once submissions close, if required.
- Council will then adopt the Final Proposal at a meeting, likely in September.
- The last date for public appeals/objections on the Final Proposal is **3 December**.

# Representation Review Feedback Form

Name

Email

Phone

**Are you a Carterton resident or ratepayer?**

Resident  Ratepayer  Neither

**Would you like to receive email updates about the Review?**

Yes  No

## Our current arrangements: Eight At Large councillors

Carterton currently has eight "at large" Councillors representing our community. This means the District has no internal boundaries and all Councillors represent all parts of the community.

**Do you feel that the current arrangement of eight at large councillors is working well?**

Yes  Somewhat  Neutral  Not really  Not at all  Don't know

**Let us know why** [Please let us know more, using extra paper/document if needed]

## Alternative Representation Options

**If you want to see a change to our existing structure please choose one of the below options, or provide a comment.**

Two wards, one representing the "urban", central part of Carterton with five "urban" Councillors, and one representing the "rural" areas of Carterton, with three Councillors.

Two wards, one representing the "urban", central part of Carterton, and one representing the "rural" areas of Carterton, plus three At Large Councillors.

This system would have three "urban" Councillors, and two representing the "rural" ward.

Other [Please let us know more, using extra paper/document if needed]



Visit [www.cdc.govt.nz/representationreview2024](http://www.cdc.govt.nz/representationreview2024)



Email your submission to [submissions@cdc.govt.nz](mailto:submissions@cdc.govt.nz)



Return this form to **28 Holloway Street, Carterton**



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