

# REPRESENTATION REVIEW

STATEMENT OF PROPOSAL

JULY 2024

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## The Initial Proposal

**On 26 June 2024, Carterton District Council reviewed its representation arrangements and resolved that the following Proposal applies for the Council elections to be held on 11 October 2025:**

It is proposed that the Council comprises of eight [8] elected members, and the Mayor, all elected At Large [from the whole District]. This would be no change to current representation arrangements.

## Current arrangements

**At Large elections have been in place for the 2013, 2016, 2019 and 2022 elections. There are eight councillor positions plus the Mayor, all elected At Large, to make nine elected members on Council.**

## Why have a review?

**Over the past year, Council has conducted a review of representation arrangements for the elections to be held in 2025 and 2028.**

To ensure fair and effective representation at local government elections, the Local Electoral Act 2001 requires councils to review their representation and electoral arrangements at least every six years.

Council last conducted a Representation Review in 2017/18 ahead of the 2019 and 2022 local elections.

A review must ensure local communities are represented fairly and effectively.

The following three key factors are considered in the Review:

- What are Carterton's communities of interest?
- How can these communities be effectively represented?
- How can these communities be fairly represented?

## Review requirements

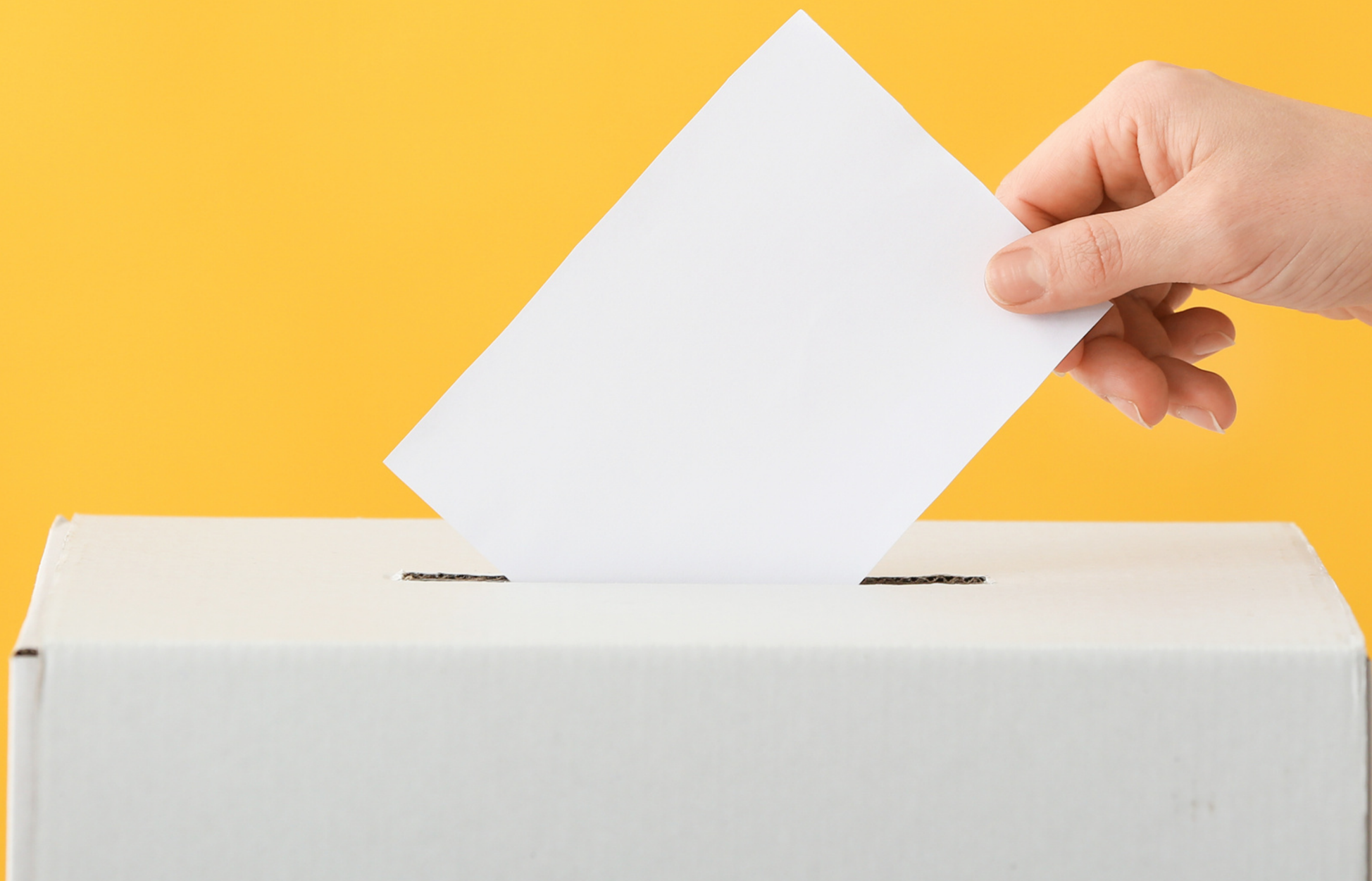
**A Representation Review must determine:**

- how many councillors represent the district.
- whether councillors are elected from wards, 'At Large' (by the District as a whole), or a mixed system of wards or 'at large'.
- if wards are established, what are the boundaries and names of the wards, and the number of members elected from each.
- whether community boards are established.
- a review the voting system, whether by 'First Past the Post' or 'Single Transferable Voting' and;
- the option of establishing a Māori ward(s).

Council resolved to retain the First Past the Post (FPP) system of voting on 28 June 2023, and not to establish a Māori Ward on 25 October 2023.

If wards are established there is a requirement for an equitable population per councillor ratio, sometimes referred to as the 'plus or minus 10% rule'. This requirement does not apply in At Large elections, as all councillors are elected across the entire District.





## How did we get here?

**Councillors reviewed a number of possible representation options for preliminary consultation with the community.**

From an initial 10 possible structures, three options were discussed as viable for public feedback. These were:

- Option 1A - eight [8] Councillors, elected At Large [representing the entire District].
- Option 2A -eight [8] Councillors, divided into two wards: one “Urban” [five councillors] and one “Rural” [three Councillors].
- Option 5A - eight [8] Councillors, divided into one “Urban” Ward, [three councillors] and one “Rural” Ward [two Councillors], plus three “At Large” Councillors.

All options also include the Mayor, elected at large.

No community boards were proposed to be established.

Feedback from the community during preliminary consultation indicated a majority of people felt the existing arrangements were working well, and a majority supported retaining the status quo. Community feedback did not indicate support for community boards.

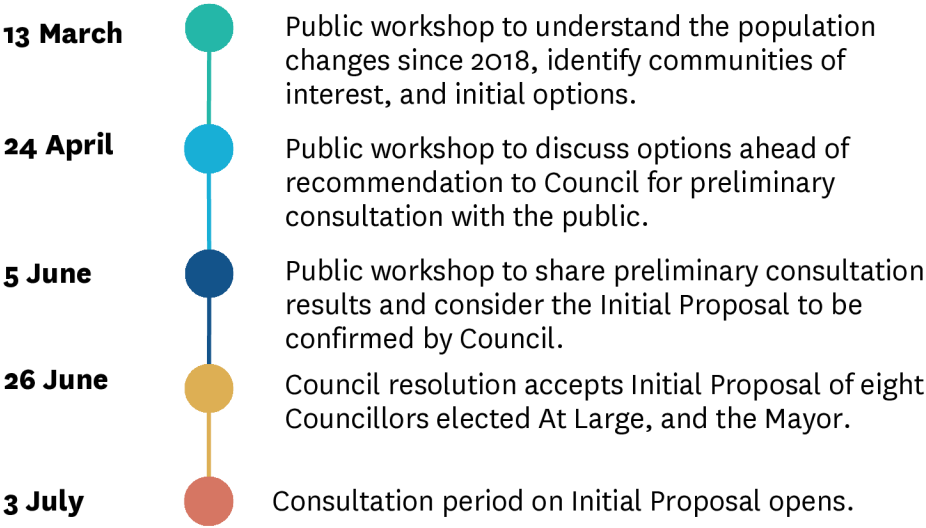
Councillors noted the current number of elected members was considered appropriate for meeting the needs of the community, and the at large system would also provide for communities of interest that are dispersed across the district, such as residents on ‘lifestyle’ blocks, for example.

Feedback from the Council’s Rural Advisory Group supported retaining the existing at large system of representation.

Based on these factors the Council adopted option 1A as its initial proposal for consultation.

**You can find more information about the options considered and preliminary consultation at [cdc.govt.nz/representationreview2024](https://cdc.govt.nz/representationreview2024)**

## Our Review process



## Will this proposal affect my rates?

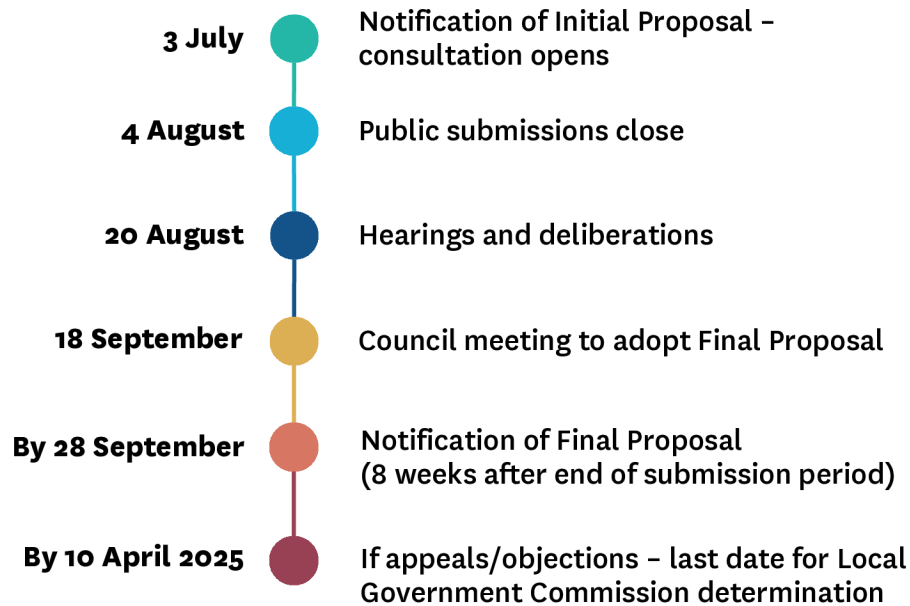
This proposal will not have an impact on rates.

The cost of councillor remuneration is based on a pool set independently by the Remuneration Authority.

Even if the number of councillors were to change, the remuneration pool would remain the same, and be redistributed among the elected members.



## What happens next?



## The Initial Proposal and The Final Proposal

**Once the Initial Proposal has been publicly notified in July, we will welcome public submissions. A submission form is available below.**

Council will then hold hearings [if requested] and deliberations on those submissions.

Council will then consider these options for the Final Proposal, likely in September, when that decision will be publicly notified. Appeals or objections to that decision may be lodged with the Council no later than 3 December 2024.

Any objections or appeals will be referred to the Local Government Commission [LGC] which will then consider those objections and appeals.

In this case, the LGC will need to make its determination by 10 April 2025. If there are no appeals or objections, the Council's proposal becomes final and the new representation arrangements will take effect for the next elections, to be held on 11 October 2025.

## How do I find out more?



### Online

- [www.lgc.govt.nz/our-work/representation-reviews](http://www.lgc.govt.nz/our-work/representation-reviews)
- [www.cdc.govt.nz/representationreview2024](http://www.cdc.govt.nz/representationreview2024)



### Phone

06 379 4030



### Email

[dem.services@cdc.govt.nz](mailto:dem.services@cdc.govt.nz)

# How do I have my say?



Complete one of our online submission forms at:  
**[www.cdc.govt.nz/representationreview2024](http://www.cdc.govt.nz/representationreview2024)**



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



Complete the paper submission form at the end of this document, or from our Council office at  
**28 Holloway Street, Carterton**



Post your paper copy to  
**PO Box 9, Carterton, 5743**

## Chat with an Elected Representative



Mayor Hon. Ron Mark  
**[mayor@cdc.govt.nz](mailto:mayor@cdc.govt.nz)**  
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# Submission Form: Representation Review Initial Proposal

Please provide your feedback by Sunday 4 August

## Your Details [Required]

Full name

.....

Organisation (if applicable)

.....

Postal address

.....

Phone

.....

Email

.....

Would you like someone to contact you about your submission?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Would you like to participate in the hearing process?

☐ Yes (in person) ☐ Yes (online) ☐ No

Are you a Carterton Resident?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Are you a Carterton ratepayer?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Don't know

If you are a Carterton ratepayer, which kind of rate do you pay?

☐ Urban ☐ Rural ☐ Commercial/Industrial



**1** Council proposes to retain the existing representation arrangements, which comprises 8 [eight] Councillors and the Mayor, all elected by the District as a whole (At Large). No community boards are to be established. Do you agree with the Initial Proposal?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Neutral

Would you like to provide comment to support your answer?  
[You can supply attachments or additional pages as required.]

**2** Do you have any further comments on the proposed representation arrangements?

[You can supply attachments or additional pages as required.]