

NORTHLAND REGIONAL COUNCIL REVIEW OF REPRESENTATION ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE 2022 LOCAL AUTHORITY ELECTIONS

Northland Regional Council is reviewing its representation arrangements, and on 28 July 2021 it resolved under section 19I and clauses 3 and 4 of Schedule 1A of the Local Electoral Act 2001 that the following proposal apply for the elections to be held on 8 October 2022:

- It is proposed that the Northland Regional Council comprise a total of nine (9) councillors, being seven (7) general councillors to be elected from seven (7) general constituencies (one from each), and two (2) Māori councillors elected from one (1) region-wide Māori constituency.
- It is proposed that the seven (7) general constituencies and the one (1) Māori constituency reflect the identified regional communities of interest as illustrated in the map and further described below:

i. Far North General

Extending from Cape Reinga and down the west coast to Waipoua. Includes the service centres of Kaitaia and Kaikohe.

ii. Bay of Islands – Whangaroa General

Includes the Whangaroa Harbour, the Bay of Islands and the surrounding settlements (including Kerikeri, Waipapa, Russell and Paihia).

iii. Kaipara General

Very similar to the current constituency; extending from Waipoua down to the southern boundary of the Northland region. Includes the service centres of Dargaville and Kaiwaka.

iv. Mid North General

The inland region stretching from Pakaraka down to the northern and western suburbs of Whangārei. Includes the townships of Hikurangi, Towai, Kawakawa and Moerewa.

v. Coastal Central General

The coastal fringe to the north and east of Whangārei – extending from Taupiri Bay down to Bream Head.

vi. Whangārei Central General

Focused on the Whangārei central business district.

vii. Coastal South General

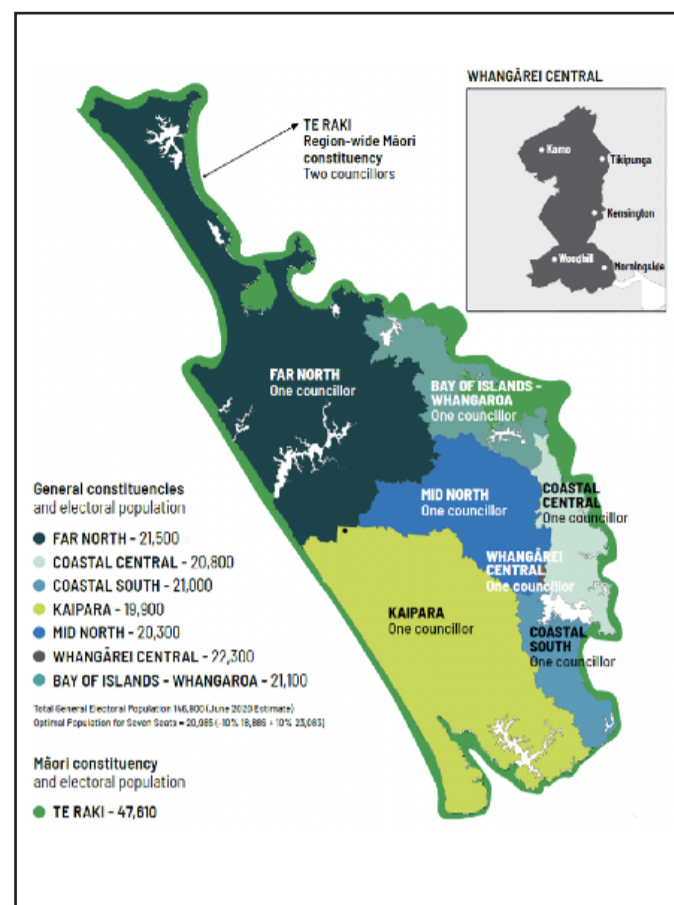
Incorporates the coastal fringe south of Whangārei and includes the service centres of Waipū, Ruakaka and Mangawhai.

viii. Te Raki Māori

All of the region.

- It is proposed that the population to be represented by each councillor is as follows:

Proposed representation arrangements



Constituency	2020 General Electoral Population Estimate	2020 Māori Electoral Population Estimate	General Population Growth since 2018*	Annual General Population Growth Rate	Number of councillors	Fits +/- 10% rule?
Far North General	21,500		1,100	2.6%	1	Yes
Bay of Islands – Whangaroa General	21,100		1,150	2.7%	1	Yes
Kaipara General	19,900		600	1.5%	1	Yes
Mid North General	20,300		850	2.1%	1	Yes
Coastal Central General	20,800		900	2.2%	1	Yes
Whangārei Central General	22,300		600	1.3%	1	Yes
Coastal South General	21,000		2,200	5.2%	1	Yes
Te Raki Māori		47,610			2	N/A
Total	146,900	47,610				

* Based on the population estimates as of 30 June 2020

- In accordance with section 19V(2) of the Local Electoral Act 2001, the population that each general councillor represents must be within the population range 20,985 plus or minus 10% (18,886 – 23,083).
- The reasons for the changes to the representation arrangements for the Northland region are:
 - To ensure new arrangements are in place for the 2022 local government elections following council’s decision to establish one or more Māori constituencies;
 - To better reflect regional communities of interest;
 - To improve effective representation; and
 - To provide for fair representation in determining the number of general councillors to be elected by the electors of each general constituency, satisfying section 19V of the Local Electoral Act 2001.

Further information

Copies of the Representation Review 2021 – Initial Proposal for Northland Regional Council, summary proposal, resolution and maps setting out the areas of the proposed constituencies may be viewed and obtained from all regional council offices. Relevant information is also available on the council’s website www.nrc.govt.nz/representationmatters

Public meetings

Please see our website above for details on the following events:

- A virtual Zoom hui** – Thursday 19 August 2021 6-7.30pm
- Northland markets** – dates and times TBC on website

Submissions

Persons or organisations with an interest in the proposed representation arrangements are invited to make written submissions to the council. There will also be the opportunity to present submissions to councillors at a hearing. Staff are available to talk to interested community groups and stakeholders about the proposals. Submissions can be made online via our website above or on forms available from all regional council offices, which can be forwarded to:

- Mail: FreePost 139690, Representation Review, Northland Regional Council, Private Bag 9021, Whangārei Mail Centre, Whangārei
- Email: submissions@nrc.govt.nz
- Hand delivered to all regional council offices.

Any submissions received will be made publicly available and any submissions heard by council will be open to the public.

If you have any questions, please call us on 0800 002 004.

Submissions must be received by council no later than 4.00pm, Friday 10 September 2021.

