

# FINAL PROPOSAL FOR REPRESENTATION ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE 2019 LOCAL AUTHORITY ELECTIONS

On 13 August 2018, Northland Regional Council considered the submissions received on its Initial Proposal regarding the representation arrangements for the council and its constituencies to apply for the local authority elections to be held on 12 October 2019.

The council received five (5) submissions on its initial proposal, with one (1) in support and four (4) in opposition. The key themes identified were:

- General support of "fine tuning" constituency boundaries due to population changes (one submission)
- The Oneriri Peninsula and Kaiwaka were one community of interest and should not be split (one submission)
- Mangawhai and Kaiwaka had affiliations with, and should not be split from, the Kaipara constituency (two submissions)
- The status quo should be retained (one submission)
- Constituency boundaries should align with tribal areas of Te Tai Tokerau (one submission)

## Northland Regional Council's Final Proposal

Having considered all submissions, council resolved at its meeting on 21 August 2018 to adopt its Initial Proposal as the council's Final Proposal with no amendments.

Therefore it is proposed the council comprise nine (9) regional councillors elected from seven (7) constituencies. The names and descriptions of the seven (7) constituencies are as follows:

- Te Hiku Constituency** – Comprising the area that extends on the west coast from near the northern side of the Whāngāpē Harbour northwards to Cape Rēinga. On the east coast it includes the Karikari Peninsula and south to Taipā, Mangonui Harbour, Hihi and Taemaro. Moving inland it includes the settlements of Oruaiti, Kenana, Fern Flat, Mangataiore, and Takahue. The proposed constituency includes the towns of Kaitiāia, Ahipara, Awanui and Mangonui.
- Hokianga-Kaikōhe Constituency** – Comprising the area whose south-west boundary matches the Far North District Council boundary at Waipoua Forest and extends north to include all of the Hokianga and Whāngāpē Harbours. Extending eastwards, the constituency includes Mangamuka, Rangiahua, Waihou Valley, Ōkaihau and Oromahoe. Extending southwards, the settlements of Pakaraka, Matawaia, Kaikōhe, Pipiwai, Moengawahine and Opouteke are included. The towns of Opononi and Kaikōhe are situated in this constituency.
- Coastal North Constituency** – Comprising the area that begins south of Doubtless Bay and extends south along the east coast to include the coastal settlements at Taupo Bay through to Matauri Bay, Takou Bay and Taronui Bay. It includes the town of Kerikeri and all of the Bay of Islands including Paihia, Ōpua and Russell. Continuing down the east coast, it includes the coastal settlements of Oakura, Helena Bay down to Whananaki South. To the west it includes Marua and Hikurangi. Further south around the western side of Whangārei it includes Gumtown, Maungatāpere, Wharekohe, Poroti and Kokopu. Northwards from there it includes Matarau and Purua and northwards to include Motatau, Otiria, Waimate North, Mangapa, Otangaroa and Akatere. The towns of Moerewa and Kawakawa are also included in this constituency.
- Whangārei Urban Constituency** – Comprising the area that includes the northern Whangārei suburbs of Kamō, Whau Valley, Tikipunga and Otangarei. It extends through Kensington to Riverside and westwards to Woodhill through to Maunu ending before Barge Park. The southern border of this constituency is just north of Toetoe Road and it also includes the area known as Port Whangārei.
- Coastal Central Constituency** – Comprising the area north of the Whangārei Urban constituency, east to Glenbervie and further south adjacent to Riverside and extending to Onerahi. The boundary then follows the northern side of Whangārei Harbour out to the east coast. It includes Ocean Beach, and extends north to include Pataua, and the Tutukaka Coast settlements of Ngunguru, Tutukaka, Matapouri, Woolleys Bay and Sandy Bay.
- Coastal South Constituency** – Comprising the area that includes the southern fringes of Whangārei from Toetoe extending westwards to the Otaika Valley, Otuhi, Tangihua and Maungakaramea. It extends south to include the settlements of Waipū, Brynderwyn and Kaiwaka before extending eastwards to just south of Mangawhai Heads. This constituency also includes the towns of Mangawhai, Kaiwaka and Ruakākā.
- Kaipara Constituency** – Comprising the area that includes Poutō Peninsula and the northern area of the Kaipara Harbour and extends northwards to meet the Far North District Council boundary at Waipoua Forest. It extends eastwards to include Waimatenui, Kaihu, Titoki and southwards to include the settlements of Waiotama, Omana, Parahaka and south to Maungaturoto. This constituency also includes the towns of Ruāwai and Dargaville.

The population (estimated at June 2017) that each councillor will represent is as follows:

Constituency	Population estimate	Number of councillors	Population per councillor	Fits +/- 10% Rule
Te Hiku	19,860	1	19,860	Yes (+1.86%)
Hokianga-Kaikōhe	16,120	1	16,120	No (-17.32%)
Coastal North	42,160	2	21,080	Yes (+8.12%)
Whangārei Urban	41,440	2	20,720	Yes (+6.27%)
Coastal Central	20,070	1	20,070	Yes (+2.94%)
Coastal South	17,760	1	17,760	Yes (-8.91%)
Kaipara	18,060	1	18,060	Yes (-7.37%)
	<b>175,470</b>	<b>9</b>		

In accordance with section 19V(2) of the Local Electoral Act 2001, the population that each councillor represents must be within the population range of 19,497 plus or minus 10% (17,547 to 21,446).

For the Hokianga-Kaikōhe constituency, the population that the councillor represents falls outside of the range (17,547 to 21,446) and therefore does not comply with section 19V(2) of the Local Electoral Act 2001. Accordingly, under legislation, this must be treated as if it were an appeal and forwarded to the Local Government Commission for determination.

## Reasons for the decision to decline matters raised submissions

The council, in its deliberations, declined matters raised in opposing submissions for the following reasons:

1. Including the Oneriri Peninsula in the Coastal South constituency resulted in non-compliance of the fair representation criteria (+/- 10% rule), failed to 'future proof' the Coastal South constituency (which has experienced the largest growth rates in the region) and failed to acknowledge the link the Oneriri Peninsula has with the Kaipara Harbour.
2. Transferring Mangawhai and Kaiwaka into the Kaipara constituency resulted in significant non-compliance of the fair representation criteria (+/- 10% rule) and did not reflect current regional communities of interest.
3. The status quo does not comply with the fair representation criteria (+/- 10% rule) and misses an opportunity to refine the representation arrangements for Northland.
4. Aligning constituency boundaries with tribal areas of Te Tai Tokerau had been considered in an earlier process required under legislation and further consideration would result in council not meeting the statutory timeframes for the Representation Review.

## Further information

Copies of Northland Regional Council's full Representation Review 2018 – Final Proposal, resolution and maps setting out the areas of the proposed constituencies may be viewed and obtained from any of the council's offices or on the council's website [www.nrc.govt.nz/RepReview](http://www.nrc.govt.nz/RepReview)

## Appeal process

In accordance with section 190 of the Local Electoral Act 2001, any person who made a submission on the council's Initial Proposal may lodge an appeal against the council's Final Proposal. An appeal must relate to the matters raised in that person's initial submission.

Appeals must be made in writing (or hardcopy forms are available at all council offices) and should be forwarded to:

- Mail: Representation Review, Northland Regional Council, Private Bag 9021, Whangārei Mail Centre, Whangārei
- Email: [submissions@nrc.govt.nz](mailto:submissions@nrc.govt.nz)
- Hand delivered to all council offices.

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

**Appeals must reach the council by 4pm Wednesday, 26 September 2018.**

