

Submission Number: 48
Response ID: 1399430
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Richard just submitted the survey 'Representation Review Submission' with the responses below.

Submission on Proposal to the Environment Canterbury Representation Review 2018

Please note that this form is only for submissions on the Proposal to the Environment Canterbury Representation Review 2018.

Public Information

All information contained in a submission under section 19M of the Local Electoral Act 2001, including names and addresses for service, becomes public information. Your information is held and administered by Environment Canterbury in accordance with the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the Privacy Act 1993. This means that your information may be disclosed to other people who request it in accordance with the terms of these Acts. It is therefore important you let us know if your form includes any information you consider should not be disclosed.

1. The proposal is for 7 constituencies. Do you consider that the number of constituencies provides effective representation for communities of interest?

Yes

Please provide your comments below (optional)

No Answer

2. Do you consider the proposed names of each constituency and the boundaries of each constituency are clear and appropriate for representation purposes?

Yes

Please provide any comments below (optional)

No Answer

3. Do you consider that the number of councillors proposed to be elected from each constituency is appropriate to provide fair representation for electors in each constituency?

No

Please provide any comments below (optional)

Having only one elected member to represent South Canterbury would compromise fair and effective representation for South Canterbury. Two representatives for South Canterbury are needed to achieve fair and effective representation. My reasons for this view are: 1. The South Canterbury economy and local employment rely heavily on effective, balanced management of land and water. Land and water management is the primary responsibility of Ecan. Ecan policies and policy decisions made on land and water

use will have a far greater impact on the South Canterbury region than on Ecan urban dominated wards who will all have 2 representatives. 2. The South Canterbury region has many diverse communities of interest directly affected by decisions made on land and water use such as livestock and dairy farmers, arable crop farmers, irrigators, ski field operators, tourism operators, accommodation providers, food product manufacturers based in Timaru and the like. Also it has many stakeholders who have a national profile with an interest in what happens in the region in regard to land and water management such as Forest and Bird, Department of Conservation and Fish and Game NZ etc. Two South Canterbury representatives are needed to ensure give effective representation for and liaison with these diverse groups. 3. South Canterbury is the largest region in physical land size. One Ecan representative trying to cover such a large area with many diverse communities of interest and issues will be challenging at best and ineffective at worst. 4. Elected representatives for urban dominated wards of North, West, Central and South Christchurch will still dominate Ecan even with 2 elected representatives for South Canterbury. Insisting on 2 representatives for South Canterbury is not an attempt to “take-over ” Ecan in favour of rural interests as some have claimed in the media. It is simply to achieve fair, balanced and effective representation for the South Canterbury region and its vitally important interests both to the local area, the Canterbury region and the wider New Zealand economy. Effective, fair and balanced representation will in turn lead to effective, fair and balanced Ecan.

4. If you have any suggestions for changes to the proposal, please provide them below.

South Canterbury should have two councillors instead of one. This could be achieved by either moving the South Canterbury boundary further North to met the population ratio required under the Local Electoral Act or apply to the Local Government Commission to provide a determination.

Public Hearings

Please tick those that apply

I do not wish to be heard in support of my submission;