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**To:** [Mailroom Mailbox](#)  
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Greetings:

Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission.

Thank you for making the effort to assure equitable representation for Canterbury. With just a bit more work a much better outcome is achievable.

The over representation in the rural districts and the under representation in Christchurch are undemocratic. I strongly object and request that ECan comply with section 19V(2) of the Local Electoral Act 2001. Christchurch continues to add population and the suggested inequity will only grow worse over time.

Fortunately ECan has readily available options to overcome this glaring inequity.

Please redraw districts more fairly. Fairness requires that voters with shared interests be amalgamated, not diluted among larger blocks of dissimilar voters. There is an urban rural split as the removal of elected Councilors by the last central government made clear. Fair representation is required for all.

Another concern is that Councillors in Christchurch need to be focused on an area larger than a small geographic district which could easily result in representing the narrow interests of their district while undermining the needs of the city and/or region.

A single city wide district is not a good solution. Campaigning across the city could deter some candidates due to the financial and time requirements of campaigning. Forming south and north districts for candidates would be a way to achieve both a wider perspective for candidates while including candidates who do not have the personal or institutional resources to mount a city wide campaign. An additional benefit would be in encouraging a more diverse candidate pool allowing more voices at the table.

Thank you for your efforts and may you have the patience

and abilities to achieve a good democratic outcome.