

**From:** [Warren Hawke](#)  
**To:** [Mailroom Mailbox](#)  
**Subject:** Proposed Democratic theft of Christchurch Representation Residents By ECan  
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## Cantabrians deserve clean rivers and a genuine democracy

This proposal is not only a shocking attack on the residents of Christchurch it is an assault on the constitutional rights of all New Zealanders. The future of our environment, the Canterbury plains and the health of our braided rivers, low land streams and lakes are being threatened by a local government that is hell bent on making a few people wealthy. In the past this battle has favoured the rich by the actions of the Key lead government in its theft of our democracy to promote intensive dairy farming at the expense of the environment. The ECan proposal that I am against sets out the number of Councillors that can be elected by people living in different areas in Canterbury. In the proposal, votes from Christchurch residents will generally count for much less than votes from rural residents. I object to the proposal for Representation for the 2019 elections as it is unbalanced and anti-democratic proposal that greatly over represents rural voters and under represents urban voters. I believe that this representation proposed breaches section 19v(2) of the local Electoral Act (the +/- 1-% rule) in four of the seven constituencies. Such a manipulation of voters power is electoral manipulation of voters rights. Wouldn't this in itself must be illegal under the electoral act?

If such a proposal is to be accepted then it would be acceptable for the residents of Christchurch to reduce/withhold the amount of rates paid to ECan in accordance with this representation.

ECan continues to demonstrate that it is an ineffective puppet which builds on its store house of excuses not to prosecute farmers for environmental breaches. It produces spin and consultation documents which do little to prevent the massive long term damage being promoted through its approval of water rights, irrigation and intensive farming. You can fool some of the people some of the time but you can't fool all the people all of the time.

We must have a full, correct, proper democracy for ECan nothing else is acceptable.

Yours faithfully  
Warren Hawke

Resident of Christchurch.

