

**From:** [Katia De Lu](#)  
**To:** [Mailroom Mailbox](#)  
**Subject:** Representation Review Appeals and Objections  
**Date:** Friday, 28 September 2018 2:24:43 PM

---

To whom it may concern,

I object to the proposal for Representation for the 2019 ECan elections. I submitted on the first proposal, asking that it be made more representative. I am outraged to see that the new proposal does the reverse; it makes the distribution of ECan councillors even less representative, with South Canterbury now wildly over-represented and urban voters disturbingly under-represented.

This is not a better proposal; it is much, much worse. In fact, it is so unbalanced that it breaches section 19V(2) of the Local Electoral Act (the +/- 10% rule) in four out of the seven constituencies - even worse than the previous proposal's three breaches!

It is unbalanced and anti-democratic for the power of a vote in Central Christchurch to be 40% less than a vote in South Canterbury. This is absolutely unacceptable.

Fair representation is a critical pillar of democracy, guaranteed by the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990 and the Local Electoral Act 2001. As I said in my original submission, **no community - urban or rural - should have significantly more or less representation than any other. The +/- 10% rule exists for a good reason.**

I urge you in the strongest possible terms to revise the ECan representation proposal to be fair and representative for *all* voters.

I am also appalled that, despite submitting on the original proposal, I was not notified that a new proposal had been released. It is only thanks to Greenpeace that I found out about the new proposal, just in time. A healthy democracy thrives on transparency, keeping its citizens informed. As ECan works to return to democracy, it would do well to remember this.

Kind regards,

Katia De Lu