

**From:** [Mike Currie](#)  
**To:** [Mailroom Mailbox](#)  
**Subject:** ECan's New Plan for Democracy in Canterbury  
**Date:** Thursday, 27 September 2018 7:26:49 AM

---

I object to the proposal for Representation for the 2019 elections.

If the new plan for democracy in Canterbury goes ahead it could give more weight to the vote of an irrigator in South Canterbury than to a school teacher in Central Christchurch. That could mean more irrigation - which means more pollution in Canterbury's waterways.

The proposal 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. Sometimes by as much as 40%!

It is an unbalanced and anti-democratic proposal that greatly over represents rural voters and under represents urban voters.

Fair representation is a critical pillar of democracy, guaranteed by the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990 and the Local Electoral Act 2001.

This representation proposed is so unbalanced that it breaches section 19V(2) of the Local Electoral Act (the +/- 1-% rule) in four out of the seven constituencies.

Cantabrians deserve clean rivers and real democracy!



Mike Currie

[currance@xtra.co.nz](mailto:currance@xtra.co.nz)

027 239 1129