

Submission

Environment Canterbury (Transitional Governance Arrangements) Bill 2015

PREPARED BY: Ashburton District Council SUBMITTED TO: Committee Secretariat
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Introduction

Ashburton District Council welcomes the opportunity to submit on the Environment Canterbury (Transitional Governance Arrangements) Bill.

Ashburton District Council wishes to make the following comments on the four parts of this Bill.

1. Part 1: Preliminary Provisions

Ashburton District Council supports the preliminary provisions identified in the Bill for the time period identified until October 2019.

2. Part 2: Governance Arrangements During Transition Period

Ashburton District Council supports the proposed transitional governance structure of elected members representing four constituencies from Canterbury with councillors appointed by the Government; however, we would prefer to see eight members elected with five appointed. Council supports the processes by which these will be elected or selected including have a dedicated representative of tikanga Māori, such as a Board member from Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu. Council agrees with the principle of all members having the same functions, powers, responsibilities, and duties irrespective of being elected or appointed. The election of the chair and deputy chair being through the members of the transitional governing body is supported. Council has no view on the remuneration processes.

3. Part 3: RMA Arrangements During Transition Period

Ashburton District Council supports the proposed process around Water Conservations Orders as stated in sections 21-22. Council also supports the retention of RMA powers to the governance body as stated in the Bill.

4. Part 4: Miscellaneous Provisions & Amendments to 2010 Act

Ashburton District Council supports the reporting requirements, the emergency provisions, the provisions for the 2019 election, and the proposed amendments to the 2010 Act.

Ashburton District Council wishes to be heard in support of this submission.



A DALZIEL
Chief Executive Officer



A MCKAY
Mayor