



## PUBLIC SUBMISSION: PROPOSED LOCAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE BOUNDARIES

9 April – 18 May 2018

Submissions will be considered by the Board of Fire and Emergency before setting the boundaries for Local Advisory Committees.

Please answer the 6 questions below and include your name, organisation (if applicable) and your contact details.

The closing date for submissions is:

**5pm on Friday 18 May 2018.**

Email your submission to:

**LACboundaryconsultation@fireandemergency.nz**

Or, mail your submission to:

**Local Advisory Committee Boundaries**

**PO Box 2133**

**Wellington 6140**

### SUBMITTER DETAILS

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### QUESTION 1

*Overall, how strongly do you support the proposal that CDEM Group boundaries be used as the boundaries for Local Advisory Committees? Please select one of the five responses below:*

Agree  Somewhat agree  Neutral  Somewhat disagree  Disagree

*What are the reasons for your selection above?*

Somewhat agree. Using CDEM Group boundaries is logical and there are clearly identified advantages.

### QUESTION 2

*What concerns or potential issues does Fire and Emergency need to consider if CDEM Group boundaries are used to set Local Advisory Committee boundaries?*

Canterbury is a particularly large area and trying to cover it with one Local Advisory Committee raises the risk of losing the support of local communities. The potential to lose local support has been acknowledged as a risk from the outset of the fire services review.

### QUESTION 3

*What would your preference be for setting local advisory committee boundaries and why?*

Split Canterbury in two at the Rakaia River, so that a Local Advisory Committee covers South Canterbury and another covers North Canterbury.

In 2013 Ashburton District Council considered merging its Rural Fire Authority responsibilities with Canterbury Councils to the north or with South Canterbury Rural Fire District in the south. The Council decided against joining the north. In 2015 it resolved to join the south, and the Mid-South Canterbury Rural Fire Authority was created.

The consultants' reports commissioned by the Council at the time noted that Ashburton District found itself uniquely on the cusp between two Enlarged Rural Fire District options. While the topography to the north of the district across the Rakaia River in Selwyn and rural Christchurch was similar, there are far more lifestyle blocks and extensive rural/urban interface areas to the north. This results in different fire risks and related fire management, prevention and publicity approaches between these districts. On the other hand, the regional topography and fire hazard risks of Ashburton District's southern neighbours are similar to Ashburton's.

The consultants concluded that joining with the north had the potential to lose touch with local communities, whereas this was not seen as a risk if Ashburton joined the south. Although the analysis was in relation to possible Enlarged Rural Fire Districts, the concerns around communities of interest and local support are equally relevant when considering Local Advisory Committee boundaries.

#### QUESTION 4

*What other options has Fire and Emergency not considered that could be used to set Local Advisory Committee boundaries?*

Click or tap here to enter text.

#### QUESTION 5

*Of the other options you identified in question 4, what do you consider to be the main benefits and challenges of each, when it comes to considering them as Local Advisory Committee boundaries?*

Click or tap here to enter text.

#### QUESTION 6

*Do you have any comments or suggestions about this proposal for establishing Local Advisory Committee boundaries?*

Click or tap here to enter text.