

Public Notice - Representation Review Initial Proposal

Initial proposal for representation arrangements for the 2025 local elections

On 5 June 2024 the Ashburton District Council reviewed its representation arrangements, and resolved that the following proposal apply for the Council and its community boards for the elections to be held on 11 October 2025:

Council Representation

It is proposed that the Council comprise nine members elected from three wards, and the Mayor. The three wards reflect the following identified communities of interest:

WARD	COMMUNITIES OF INTEREST
Ashburton Ward	The Ashburton Ward includes the commercial and urban residential area of Ashburton, as well as the residential Lake Hood area. Lake Hood residents share commonalities with Ashburton urban residents, such as a shared rate for urban amenities. The Ashburton urban area is growing and therefore the area around Trevors Road is now included in this Ward to account for recent and planned future development.
Eastern Ward	The Eastern Ward includes the townships of Hinds and Rakaia as well as several other rural settlements such as Chertsey and Hakatere. The Eastern Ward borders the coast and as such coastal areas are likely to face common issues related to services and water supply.
Western Ward	The Western Ward includes the communities of Methven, Mount Somers and Mayfield as well as smaller rural settlements such as Staveley. These communities share commonalities given their proximity to the Southern Alps, and therefore have a similar climate and suitability for different land use. These communities are likely to face common issues related to services and water supply.

The population that each member will represent is as follows:

Ward	Population	Members	Ratio
Ashburton Ward	21,220	5	4,244
Eastern Ward	7,640	2	3,820
Western Ward	7,860	2	3,930
Total	36,720	9	4,080

In accordance with section 19V(2), Local Electoral Act 2001 the population that each member represents must be within the range of 4,080 +/- 10% (3,672 to 4,488), unless particular community of interest considerations justify otherwise.

None of the proposed wards fall outside the stipulated range.

Community Board Representation

It is proposed that the following community board be elected:

Community Board	Area of Community
Methven Community Board	Covering Methven Township

The boundary for the Methven Community Board is proposed to be extended to include properties on the periphery of the current Methven Community Board Boundary. These properties are considered to be part of the Board's community of interest and receive a benefit from the Community Board. Therefore, electors within the area should have the right to be represented by the Board and vote for their membership.

Methven Community Board

The Methven Community Board will elect four members. It will not be subdivided for electoral purposes. The Board will have two appointed members as follows:

Community Board	Number of members from which ward
Methven Community Board	Two members appointed from the Western Ward

The number of members elected to the Methven Community Board is proposed to reduce from five to four. This is because a total membership of six (including two appointed members) is considered to be fair and effective representation for a community of this size, and will promote contested elections.

Further Information

Copies of the Council's resolution and maps setting out the areas of the proposed wards, communities and subdivisions may be viewed and obtained from:

 **Online**
[itsourplace.nz](https://www.itsourplace.nz)

 Ashburton District Council
Ground floor - Te Whare Whakatere
2 Baring Square East
Ashburton 7700

Any queries regarding the Council's decision should be directed to:


Toni Durham
Group Manager Democracy & Engagement
03 307 7879
Toni.Durham@adc.govt.nz

Submissions are invited

Persons with an interest in the proposed representation arrangements are invited to make written submissions on the Council's representation proposal.

Submissions are to be forwarded to:

 **Online**
[itsourplace.nz](https://www.itsourplace.nz)

 Ashburton District Council
PO Box 94
Ashburton 7740

 **Email**
submissions@adc.govt.nz

Submissions must be received by Council no later than **21 July 2024**.

Hamish Riach
Chief Executive

13 June 2024