

Notice is hereby given of the

# Extraordinary meeting of Council Te Huinga Tu

**Wednesday 28 August 2024 at 10:00 am**

Environment Southland Council chamber, 220 North Road, Invercargill  
24/C/46

**Council Members**

Chairman Nicol Horrell  
Cr Jeremy McPhail (Deputy)  
Cr Neville Cook  
Cr Paul Evans

Cr Alastair Gibson  
Cr Robert Guyton  
Cr Lyndal Ludlow  
Cr Peter McDonald

Cr Jon Pemberton  
Cr Phil Morrison  
Cr Maurice Rodway  
Cr Eric Roy



# Agenda

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*This meeting will be livestreamed through YouTube and will be available to view on our website.*  
<https://www.es.govt.nz/about-us/live-stream>

<b>1 Welcome I Haere mai .....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>2 Apologies I Ngā pa pouri .....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>3 Declarations of interest .....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>4 Public forum, petitions and deputations I He huinga tuku korero .....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>5 Confirmation of minutes I Whakau korero .....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>6 Adoption of committee resolutions .....</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>7 Notification of extraordinary items/urgent business I He panui autaiā hei totoia pakihi .....</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>8 Questions I Patai .....</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>9 Chairman and councillors reports I Ngā purongo-a-tumuaki me ngā kaunihera .....</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>10 Reports .....</b>	<b>18</b>
10.1 Representation Review 2024 - Initial Proposal Hearings .....	18
<b>11 Extraordinary/urgent business I Panui autia hei totoia pakihi .....</b>	<b>64</b>
<b>12 Public excluded business I He hui pakihi e hara mo te iwi .....</b>	<b>64</b>
12.1 Retrospective Approval Sought for Council's Overdraft Facility .....	64
12.2 Before the Deluge 2.0 Co-funding projects .....	64



Wilma Falconer

**Chief Executive**

RECOMMENDATIONS IN COUNCIL REPORTS ARE NOT TO BE CONSTRUED AS COUNCIL POLICY UNTIL ADOPTED BY COUNCIL

## **1 Welcome I Haere mai**

## **2 Apologies I Ngā pa pouri**

At the time of the agenda closing, no apologies had been received for this meeting.

## **3 Declarations of interest**

Please consider your interest in preparation for this meeting.

At the time of the agenda closing. No declarations of interest had been received for this meeting.

## **4 Public forum, petitions and deputations I He huinga tuku korero**

The purpose of this item is to provide an opportunity for members of the public to convey concerns, make suggestions to, and have input with, the Council. The Council or Committee will provide up to 20 minutes at the commencement of each meeting for members of the public to address the meeting but will allocate only five minutes for each speaker or group.

At the time of the agenda closing, no public forum, petitions or deputations were received for the meeting.

## **5 Confirmation of minutes I Whakau korero**

Attached are the minutes from the Ordinary meeting of Council held 14 August 2024.

## Minutes of the Ordinary meeting of the Southland Regional Council

Held at Environment Southland, 220 North Road Invercargill  
 Wednesday, 14 August 2024 at 10.30 am



### Present:

Chairman N Horrell (Chair)  
 Cr N Cook  
 Cr P Evans  
 Cr A Gibson  
 Cr R Guyton  
 Cr L Ludlow  
 Cr P McDonald  
 Cr J McPhail – by Zoom Digital link until 11.42 am  
 Cr P Morrison  
 Cr J Pemberton  
 Cr M Rodway

### Also Present:

Ms W Falconer (Chief Executive)  
 Mr B Halligan (Acting GM, Regulatory Services)  
 Ms B Gibson (Acting GM, Corporate Services)  
 Mrs L Hicks (General Manager, Integrated Catchment Management)  
 Ms A Kubrycht (General Manager, People & Governance)  
 Ms R Millar (General Manager, Strategy, Policy & Science)  
 Mrs J M Brown (Executive Officer – *Minutes*)

## 1 Welcome I Haere mai

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the Council meeting for Wednesday, 14 August 2024

## 2 Apologies

### **Resolved:**

**Moved Cr N Cook, seconded Cr A Gibson, that an apology for absence be recorded on behalf of Cr E Roy – leave of absence previously granted.**

**Carried**

## 3 Declarations of interest

**Cr Rodway** referred to the reference to the Meridian Energy Ltd consent hearing in the reports, and noted that he was a member of the Waiau River Working Party which had lodged a submission to that application and will be participating in the hearing. He would therefore take no part in any discussions that might arise on this matter.

**Cr McDonald** noted Item 10.4 – Appointment of Mid Dome Wilding Trees Charitable Trustees and advised that as he was a Trustee of the same organisation, he would not be participating in the

discussions on this matter. Further, he also noted he was an applicant for an Environmental Enhancement Fund grant, and would not be participating in the discussion on that item (10.2).

## 4 Public forum, petitions and deputations | He huinga tuku korero

There were no public forum, petitions or deputations presented at the meeting.

## 5 Confirmation of minutes

### 5.1 Ordinary Meeting of Council – 17 July 2024

Cr Rodway noted that he should not have been listed as being present at this meeting (although he had observed the meeting via the livestream, he had not been able to participate) – the record is to be amended accordingly.

**Resolved:**

**Moved by Cr Ludlow, and seconded, Cr McDonald, that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on Wednesday, 17 July 2024, be amended to remove Cr Rodway from the list of those present, and confirmed as a true and correct record of that meeting.**

Carried

## 6 Adoption of committee resolutions

### 6.1 Southland Otago Regional Transport Committee – 4 August 2023

**Resolved:**

**Moved Cr McPhail, seconded Cr Morrison, that Council adopt the resolutions from the Southland Otago Regional Transport Committee meeting held on 4 August 2023.**

Carried

### 6.2 Southland Otago Regional Transport Committee – 20 November 2023

**Resolved:**

**Moved Cr McPhail, seconded Cr Morrison, that Council adopt the resolutions from the Southland Otago Regional Transport Committee meeting held on 20 November 2023.**

Carried

### 6.3 Otago Southland Regional Transport Committee – 2 February 2024

**Resolved:**

**Moved Cr McPhail, seconded Cr Morrison, that Council adopt the resolutions from the Southland Otago Regional Transport Committee meeting held on 2 February 2024.**

Carried

**6.4 Otago Southland Regional Transport Committee – 24 June 2024**

**Resolved:**

Moved Cr McPhail, seconded Cr Morrison, that Council adopt the resolutions from the Southland Otago Regional Transport Committee meeting held on 24 June 2024.

Carried

**6.5 South Port Subcommittee – 23 July 2024**

**Resolved:**

Moved Chairman Horrell, seconded Cr Ludlow, that Council adopt the resolutions from the South Port Subcommittee meeting held on 23 July 2024.

Carried

**6.6 Strategy & Policy Committee – 23 July 2024**

Cr Ludlow spoke to this report, and suggested a wording change be made on page 3 of the minutes (page 63 of the agenda) under Item 9.3, to read *“It was agreed that Council would show support for the recommendations by sending a letter to the Minister for the Environment endorsing the specific recommendations regarding a nationally co-ordinated approach. Staff would co-ordinate this.”* It was felt this provided greater clarity around the discussions that had occurred. The minutes are to be amended accordingly, and submitted to the next meeting for adoption in this format. This change did not alter the resolution that was to be adopted by the meeting.

**Resolved:**

Moved Cr Ludlow, seconded Cr Rodway, that Council adopt the resolutions from the Strategy & Policy Committee meeting held on 23 July 2024.

Carried

**6.7 Regional Services Committee – 6 August 2024**

Cr McDonald highlighted two significant items discussed at the meeting – the restart of the Bluff Haul-out facility work (which had been well received); and two annual reports from the Biosecurity and Biodiversity division. The minutes are also to be amended at page 68 in the final paragraph which starts “Cr Pemberton” and to replace that name with “Cr McDonald”.

**Resolved:**

Moved Cr McDonald, seconded Cr Pemberton, that Council adopt the resolutions from the Regional Services Committee meeting held on 6 August 2024.

Carried

**6.8 Regulatory Committee – 6 August 2024**

**Resolved:**

Moved Cr Cook, seconded Cr McDonald, that Council adopt the resolutions from the Regulatory Committee meeting held on 6 August 2024.

Carried



## 7 Notification of extraordinary and urgent business | He panui autaiā hei totoia pakihi

There were no extraordinary items or urgent business tabled for inclusion in the agenda.

## 8 Questions | Patai

The following question was asked by Cr Morrison:

*According to StatsNZ data, between 1996 and 2018 Southland recorded the biggest loss of freshwater wetlands of any NZ region, contributing to almost half (46 percent) of the total loss of freshwater wetlands in New Zealand (a reduction of 2,665 hectares).*

*Ngāi Tahu ki Murihiku have an explicit aspiration for wetland extent lost since 1995 to be restored to the same extent by 2035.*

*The Regional Forum report identified that the re-establishment of wetlands at scale represented “a strategic investment in the campaign for the region’s freshwater resources”, and that science scenario modelling indicated that “wetland development has the potential to deliver significant reductions in contaminants across all FMU”.*

1. *In the 12-month period ending on 30 June 2023, what total area of freshwater wetlands were restored or established, by FMU?*
2. *What percentage does this area represent relative to the freshwater wetland cover lost since 1996, by FMU?*
3. *What total area of wetland remains to be restored or established to meet Ngai Tahu ki Murihiku’s explicit aspiration for wetland cover lost since 1995 to be restored to the same extent by 2035?*

Ms Millar advised that a detailed report on this topic was to be presented to the Strategy & Policy Committee meeting scheduled for 4 September 2024. She noted that as a result of the question that had been raised, additional work was being done to expand the information within the report. Further, with regard to the Thriving Southland seed funding grant of \$235,000 for advancing environmental improvements with catchment groups – the criteria that was to be applied to the work that had a focus around wetlands and constructed sediment traps, would be submitted to the same meeting, for consideration.

In the meantime, Chief Scientist Karen Wilson advised that staff were not easily able to answer the question around the amount of restored wetlands within the region, but some information was available re constructed wetlands. She also noted there were different definitions of wetlands in the NPS compared to the Regional Forum Report as well – so the response would address those aspects. The Chairman noted that if possible, it would be helpful to have information on progress that had been made in the last five years not only addressing wetlands, but biodiversity gains, to see if “a corner has been turned” or not.

Cr McDonald noted that as a regulator in this area, what Council could do through regulation to incentivise wetland creation – noting this was something the Council should be considering going forward.

Cr Guyton also asked a question – *“in light of Government’s very recent statements about genetic engineering and its intention to allow genetically modified rye grass into the environment, can this Council refuse to allow the release of genetically modified organisms in Southland?”*

Mr Halligan advised that Council’s role was to administer the legislation and planning documents that existed, and the current planning framework did not provide Council with any ability to control matters that have been approved at a central government level.

## 9 Chairman and councillors reports

### 9.1 Chairman’s Report

The Chairman’s report set out activities undertaken by him on behalf of Council during the past month. Additionally, the Chairman advised he was looking forward to the opening of Stead Street Pump Station, which he noted protected one of the third longest runways in NZ. He also noted the forthcoming Regional Sector tour to the Hawke’s Bay/Greater Wellington regions, from which he hoped to bring some learnings back.

### 9.2 Councillor Reports

There were no written reports presented to the meeting, but Cr McDonald provided a verbal update on his participation in the Dipton Catchment Group meeting which hosted the Maniatoto Catchment Group. That group’s focus was on energy resilience for rural communities.

## 10 Staff reports

### 10.1 Chief Executive’s report

The Chief Executive’s report provided a governance overview of current matters within the organisation. Ms Wilma Falconer was in attendance and spoke to this report, highlighting:

- the issues at a national level re the Government’s enquiry to adaptation, and the Hawke’s Bay flood review;
- Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment’s (PCE) visit in July and presentation on his most recent reports;
- Stead Street Pump Station opening;
- Climate Resilience work being undertaken cross-organisationally;
- That post the agenda being published, there was an exceedance in Gore air quality levels for the first time in four years.

In relation to questions raised by Cr Guyton about ongoing dialogue with the PCE’s office, he was advised that there were regular meetings held between staff from both offices, and that the PCE had taken a particular interest in the work in the Maitua. Staff noted that Council could also put together its reflections on the meeting with the PCE’s office, in conjunction with the Strategy & Policy Committee meeting, and this approach was supported.

Cr Cook raised the matter of the Hawke’s Bay report recommendations, and learnings from same. He felt many of the recommendations had been implemented or were in the process of being implemented locally but asked if there was anything immediate that needed to be done by Council. Ms Falconer noted that all recommendations should be addressed by all Councils and that the test would be in an “event”. However she felt a broader conversation needed to occur about preparedness for the increasingly significant events that appeared to be occurring. The forthcoming visit to the Hawke’s Bay for the LGNZ pre-conference tour, would assist learnings in this regard - hearing from the people involved as to their views on their preparedness at the time. The Chairman noted his concern that Emergency Management was being reviewed nationally, and he did not want the good model that was in place in Southland being taken over by central government.

Ms Hicks outlined discussions occurring at the CDEM Special Interest Group (SIG) meeting this week, where there had been very free and frank discussions with the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet staff. This was an evolving situation, but a formal release of work was to occur in the next week. Councillors would continue to be updated via the Regional Services Committee meetings.

In relation to questions regarding the FIRST (Flood Impact and Risk Specialist Team) team and support from Council's territorial authority partners, it was noted development of this group was in its early stages, but initial conversations were happening, and a formal briefing will be provided in the future on this project as it evolved. In the meantime, a request through the Co-ordinating Executive Group and Southland Civil Defence Emergency Management Group had been made to the TAs to provide more staff, both in the controller rolls, and to also release staff for training.

Other matters noted were:

- Cr Ludlow and Gibson's involvement in the Environment Award judging work, which meant they were unable to attend the official opening of the Stead Street Pump Station.
- Waihopai Integrated Catchment Management work –this project has had some initial discussions with focus groups to get it underway and a briefing/update on scope of the project and direction of travel is to be provided to Councillors.
- difficulties that can and will be experienced in getting people living in at-risk areas to move in the event of a flooding emergency.
- recommendation from Cr Rodway for members to watch the Patrick Gower: On Ice special on climate change.
- the wealth of information that is available on Council's website in support of climate change matters.
- the pace and scale of change continuing from central government reforms.

**Resolved:**

**Moved Cr Cook, seconded Cr Rodway, that Council receive the Chief Executive's report.**

**Carried**

## 10.2 Environmental Enhancement Fund – Establishing New Fund Categories

The purpose of this report was to gain Council approval to establish two new Environmental Enhancement Fund (EEF) categories. Ali Meade (Manager) and Polly Bulling (Team Leader) attended and spoke to the report, responding to questions of clarification around current work and applications, and whether staff felt the gains made as a result of the Jobs For Nature funding would be maintained when that funding ceased next year.

**Resolved:**

**Moved Cr Cook, seconded Cr Ludlow, that Council:**

- (1) **receive the report – Environmental Enhancement Fund – Establishing New Fund Categories;**
- (2) **approve the creation of the two new EEF categories:**
  - a. **Rūnanga Led Projects \$100,000**
  - b. **Maintaining the Gains (removal of wilding sources) \$80,000**

**Carried**

### 10.3 Local Government New Zealand Remits 2024

Council was asked to agree its position on the Local Government New Zealand (LGNZ) Remits and direct its delegates to the LGNZ Annual General Meeting, being held on 21 August 2024, to vote in alignment with that position. At this time staff tabled an updated version of the appendix, which had contained an error (with the duplication of an item).

Cr Ludlow noted she had withdrawn from attending the conference. As a result, it was proposed Cr Gibson’s attendance at the AGM be changed from Observer to Alternate Delegate.

In working through the appendix, the “rationale” for Item 3 was unclear, and it was agreed to amend this so that the third paragraph read “*Māori have a distinct role as a partner of Te Tiriti o Waitangi and we do not believe that subjecting Māori wards and constituencies to a referendum upholds local government responsibilities in relation to Te Tiriti o Waitangi.*”

The meeting also noted there was a need for delegates to have guidance provided on the priority ranking of successful remits, which had not been addressed by this report. It was agreed to conduct a poll outside of the meeting process today, to assist in providing guidance to its delegates on this matter.

**Resolved:**

**Moved Cr Rodway, seconded Cr Gibson, that Council:**

1. note the report – Local Government New Zealand Remits 2024;
2. agree its position on each LGNZ remit in line with staff recommendations (appended);
3. direct its Presiding Delegate and Alternate Delegate(s) (if Presiding Delegate is absent) to vote in alignment with the Council’s agreed position
4. conduct a Doodle Poll outside of the meeting process today, to assist Council’s delegates in providing a priority for the successful remits.
5. Cr Gibson replace Cr Ludlow as an alternate delegate at the event.

**Carried**

[Cr McPhail left the meeting at this time – 11.42 am]

### 10.4 Appontment of Mid Dome Wilding Trees Charitable Trustees

Council’s approval of the confirmation of appointment of Jeffrey Keen as a Trustee to the Mid Dome Wilding Trees Charitable Trust was sought through this item.

**Resolved:**

**Moved Cr Cook, seconded Cr Evans, that Council:**

1. receive the report – Appointment of Mid Dome Wilding Trees Charitable Trustees;
2. approve the appointment of Jeffrey Keen as a Trustee of the Mid Dome Wilding Trees Charitable Trust.
3. advise the Mid Dome Wilding Trees Charitable Trust that the Southland Regional Council (Environment Southland) approves the appoinment of Jeffrey Keen as a Trustee.

**Carried**

### 10.5 Contact Southland Wind Farm – comments provided to the Environmental Protection Authority – formal Council approval

The purpose of this item was for Council to provide its formal, retrospective approval of the comments recently provided on its behalf to the Environmental Protection Authority on the proposed Contact Southland wind farm project.

Mr Halligan advised that Council had been notified the application has been placed on hold at the applicant's request, whilst they work through the comments. The Panel had also commissioned an independent ecological review, the outcome of which which raised some data issues which have also been put back to the applicant for feedback.

**Resolved:**

**Moved Cr Cook, seconded Cr Ludlow, that Council:**

1. **receive the report – Contact Southland Wind Farm – comments provided to the Environmental Protection Authority – formal Council approval.**
2. **retrospectively approve the attached comments provided to the EPA on behalf of the Council.**

**Carried**

### 10.6 Long-term Accommodation Project Update

This item provided Council with an update on the Long-term Accommodation Project.

Cr Cook noted Mayor Clark's comments re working with other councils on accommodation matters, which he supported. Ms Falconer advised that the three options that the business case would be considering included this aspect, and staff were working with the ICC on what that option may look like, and SDC had recently joined those discussions.

Cr McDonald expressed a note of caution that the Working Group maintain its discipline in this regard, to ensure it was not pushed by media discussion. The Chief Executive noted Cr McPhail (as Chair of the Working Group) would ensure appropriate focus was applied, and the best value for money option, with the best benefit to ratepayers, was achieved.

**Resolved:**

**Moved Cr Morrison, seconded Cr Cook, that Council receive the report – Long-term Accommodation Project Update.**

**Carried**

### 10.7 Councillor Meeting Schedule

The purpose of this item was for Council to consider and approve the meeting schedule as appended to the staff report. In addition to the items listed, the following were also confirmed:

- Regional Services Committee meeting with Catchment Liaison Committee Chairs – 26 August 2024 at 1.00 pm
- confirmation that the Extraordinary meeting of Council scheduled for 28 August 2024 would be proceeding;
- Great South Joint Shareholders Committee meeting – 30 August 2024 at 9.00 am – to be attended by Chairman Horrell and the Chief Executive;

- Security Briefing with the Deputy Director of Intelligence – 30 August 2024 at 10.30 am – Chairman Horrell;
- confirmation that the Extraordinary meeting of Council scheduled for 4 September 2024, would be proceeding;
- Southland Mayoral Forum meeting with Otago Mayoral Forum on line – 6 September 2024 at 9.15 am – Chairman Horrell, Cr McPhail;
- meeting with Hon. P Simmonds – Minister for the Environment re wilding pines – Friday 13 September 2024 at 1.00 pm;
- Regional Climate Change Working Group – 19 September 2024 at 10.00 am – Crs Rodway & Morrison;
- 2024 Export Gala Awards event at Invercargill on 20 September 2024 – Chairman Horrell;
- Reimaging Maitaia hui at a venue to be confirmed, on 24 September 2024 at 9.30 am – Chairman Horrell;
- Cr Pemberton also attended the ACE Field Day recorded on the schedule;
- Cr Ludlow has withdrawn from attendance at the LGNZ Conference;
- clarification is to be provided to Cr McDonald as to who is to chair the Regional Services Committee meeting to be held with the Catchment Liaison Committee Chairs in August.

In addition, Cr Morrison sought leave of absence from council activities during the period 29 August to 11 September 2024, inclusive.

Cr McDonald asked about the timing of the LTP de-brief that had been suggested. He was advised that a survey had been circulated with the Chief Executive’s Weekly Update to gather initial feedback from Councillors and others involved in the process, to assist in providing focus for the debrief that was yet to be scheduled.

**Resolved:**

**Moved Cr Cook, seconded Cr Ludlow, that Council:**

- 1. receive the report – Councillor Meeting Schedule;**
- 2. approve the leave of absence request lodged by Cr Morrison;**
- 3. appoint members to represent Council at the meetings as marked on the schedule;**
- 4. pay meeting fees and/or allowances in accordance with its policy and as detailed on the schedule.**

**Carried**

**10.8 Common Seal**

This item reported on the documents to which the Common Seal had been placed, under delegated authority, as required by Council’s Delegations Manual.

**Resolved:**

Moved Cr Ludlow, seconded Cr Morrison, that Council receive the report – Common Seal and note the documents to which the Common Seal has been affixed under approved authorisation.

Carried

## 11 Extraordinary and Urgent Business

There was no extraordinary or urgent business considered by the meeting.

## 12 Public excluded business I He hui pakihi e hara mo te iwi

**Resolved:**

Moved Cr Cook, and seconded Cr McDonald, that in accordance with section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interest/s protected by section 7 of that act, that the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely:

- 12.1.1 Confirmation of Public Excluded minutes – Ordinary meeting of Council – 17 July 2024
- 12.2.1 Adoption of public excluded committee resolutions – South Port Subcommittee – 23 July 2024
- 12.2.2 Adoption of public excluded committee resolutions – Strategy & Policy Committee – 31 July 2024
- 12.2.3 Adoption of public excluded committee resolutions – Regional Services Committee – 6 August 2024

The general subject matters to be considered while the public is being excluded, the reason for this resolution in relation to the matter, and the specific grounds for excluding the public, as specified by Section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 are set out below:

GENERAL SUBJECT MATTER	REASON FOR PASSING THE RESOLUTION	GROUNDS UNDER S.48(1)
<p><b>12.1 Confirmation of Public Excluded Minutes:</b></p> <p>12.1.1 Ordinary meeting of Council – 17 July 2024</p>	<p>To protect the privacy of natural persons.</p> <p>To prevent the disclosure or use of official information for improper gain or advantage.</p> <p>To enable any local authority holding the information to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.</p> <p>To prevent disclosure of information which would (i) be contrary to the provisions of a specified enactment; or (ii) constitute contempt of Court</p>	<p>S.7(2)(a)</p> <p>S.7(2)(j)</p> <p>S.7(2)(h)</p> <p>S.48(1)(a)</p>

GENERAL SUBJECT MATTER	REASON FOR PASSING THE RESOLUTION	GROUNDS UNDER S.48(1)
<p><b>12.2 Adoption of public excluded resolutions:</b></p> <p><b>12.2.1 South Port Subcommittee – 23 July 2024</b></p> <p><b>12.2.2 Strategy &amp; Policy Committee – 31 July 2024</b></p> <p><b>12.2.3 Regional Services Committee – 6 August 2024</b></p>	<p><b>or of the House of Representatives.</b></p> <p><b>To enable the local authority holding the information to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.</b></p> <p><b>To prevent the disclosure or use of official information for improper gain or advantage.</b></p> <p><b>To prevent the disclosure or use of official information for improper gain or advantage.</b></p> <p><b>To allow Council to carry on without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations).</b></p> <p><b>To enable any local authority holding the information to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.</b></p> <p><b>To prevent disclosure of information which would (i) be contrary to the provisions of a specified enactment; or (ii) constitute contempt of Court or of the House of Representatives.</b></p>	<p><b>S.7(2)(h)</b></p> <p><b>S.7(2)(j)</b></p> <p><b>S.7(2)(j)</b></p> <p><b>S.7(2)(i)</b></p> <p><b>S.7(2)(h)</b></p> <p><b>S.48(1)(b)</b></p>

**Carried**

## Resumed in Open Meeting

### 13 Termination

With there being no further meeting business, Chairman Horrell closed the meeting at 12.12 pm.



## **6 Adoption of committee resolutions**

There were no committee resolutions to be adopted at this meeting.

## **7 Notification of extraordinary items/urgent business I He panui autaiā hei totoia pakihi**

At the time of the agenda closing, there were no notifications of extraordinary or urgent business.

## **8 Questions I Patai**

At the time of the agenda closing, no questions had been received for this meeting.

## **9 Chairman and councillors reports I Ngā purongo-a- tumuaki me ngā kaunihera**

At the time of the agenda closing, no Councillor Reports were received for the meeting.

## 10 Reports

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### 10.1 Representation Review 2024 - Initial Proposal Hearings

**Report by:** Robyn Koehler, Principal Advisor - Partnership  
**Approved by:** Rachael Millar, General Manager Strategy, Policy & Science  
**Report Date:** 21 August 2024

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#### Purpose

To enable Council to conduct a hearing of submissions received on the Representation Review 2024 – Initial Proposal.

#### Summary

Council's Representation Review 2024 – Initial proposal was open for public consultation from 19 July 2024 to 19 August 2024. 18 submissions were received. Seven submitters wished to be heard in support of their submission, and these will be heard at this Council meeting.

A Council meeting to consider all submissions received, the issues raised by submitters and to deliberate and indicate its preferred representation arrangements (confirmation of the initial proposal or an amended initial proposal) will then take place on 4 September 2024. Following this, Council will then resolve its final proposal on 25 September 2024.

#### Recommendation

**It is recommended that Council resolve to:**

- 1 Receive the report - Representation Review 2024 - Initial Proposal Hearings.
- 2 Note that the Representation Review 2024 – Initial Proposal, as adopted 17 July 2024, has undergone a consultative process and submissions have been received:
- 3 Receive the submissions made to the Representation Review 2024 – Initial Proposal.
- 4 Agree to hear all submitters who wish to be heard on the Representation Review 2024 – Initial Proposal.

#### Background

On 17 July 2024, the Council adopted an initial proposal (Attachment 1), which in summary proposed:

- Retaining twelve councillors.
- Retaining the number of councillors representing each constituency.
- Retaining the names of the constituencies.
- Making minor changes to the boundaries impacting the Eastern-Dome, Hokonui and Western constituencies to better align with the Southland District Council ward boundaries
- Retaining the current non-alignment between the Hokonui and Southern constituencies and the Southland District Council's Ōreti and Waihōpai Toetoe ward boundaries (where they join the north boundary of the ICC). Alignment would significantly increase the level of non-compliance with the fair representation criteria for the Southern constituency based on current representation arrangements.

The initial proposal and submission process were publicly notified on the Council's website, in newspapers, and communicated through a media release, direct mail to ratepayers in the proposed boundary change areas, through newspaper advertising, emails to Te Ao Mārama, partners, stakeholders, community, advocacy and sector peak bodies, an e-newsletter and through social media.

The submission period was open from Friday, 19 July 2024 to Monday, 19 August 2024. During the submission period, 18 submissions were received. Copies of all submissions are included in Attachment 2.

Seven submitters have asked to be heard. These submitters have been scheduled to present their submissions to the Council at this meeting. The schedule for the hearing of submissions is provided below.

SUBMISSION NUMBER	SUBMITTER/SPEAKER	TIME
4	Rakiura Stewart Island Community Board <i>(Aaron Conner) via Zoom</i>	10.10am
3	Lloyd McCallum <i>In person</i>	10.20am
7	Federated Farmers of New Zealand <i>(Jason Herrick) In person</i>	10.30am
10	Doug Fraser <i>In person</i>	10.40am
15	Louise O'Callaghan <i>In person</i>	10.50am
11	Josh Cumberland <i>In person</i>	11.00am
5	Invercargill City Council <i>(Michael Day) In person</i>	11.10am

## Risks/Opportunities

There are no significant risks associated with this matter. However, representation arrangements are central to effective democracy, therefore if the review is not conducted in a thorough and transparent manner, there is a risk of a negative impact to Council's reputation and reduced trust in Council.

## Views of affected parties

Consultation has taken place in adherence with the consultation principles set out in the Local Government Act 2002 and the requirements of the Local Electoral Act 2001.

## Fit with strategic framework

The review helps to ensure openness and transparency in local democracy, providing the opportunity for the people of Murihiku Southland to shape representative arrangements, and to ensure fair and effective representation.

OUTCOME	CONTRIBUTES	DETRACTS	NOT APPLICABLE
Managed access to quality natural resources			X
Diverse opportunities to make a living			X
Communities empowered and resilient	X		
Communities expressing their diversity	X		

## Te Tiriti o Waitangi | Treaty of Waitangi

Te Tiriti recognises a partnership between the Crown, including local government, and Māori. Councils have a duty to engage in meaningful partnerships with Māori. Engagement and consultation was undertaken with Te Ao Mārama as part of the review of Māori constituencies (one of the three processes that form a review of democratic arrangements for local authorities). Te Ao Mārama was offered the opportunity for preliminary

consultation on the representation review and was directly advised of the initial proposal and opportunity to make a submission. A submission has been received from Te Ao Mārama.

## Climate Change

This matter is of a procedural nature only and there are no related climate change impacts.

## Compliance with Significance and Engagement Policy

Consultation has taken place in adherence with the consultation principles set out in the Local Government Act 2002 and the requirements of the Local Electoral Act 2001 and complies with the Significance and Engagement Policy.

## Considerations

### Financial implications

There are no budgetary considerations because of this report.

Remuneration for elected members is set by the Remuneration Authority so there are no remuneration budgetary implications because of the review.

### Legal implications

The legislation governing the Representation Review is the Local Electoral Act 2001. During the representation review Council must also be mindful of the principles set out in section 14, Local Government Act 2002, including:

- being aware of, and regarding the views of all its communities,
- accounting for the diversity, the interests of future as well as current communities and the likely impact of any decision on the four wellbeings,
- providing opportunities for Māori to contribute to decision-making processes.

Section 19M of the Local Electoral Act 2001 requires that regional councils must:

a) Public Notice:

- Publish a notice within 14 days of a resolution (by 8 August before a triennial election year).
- include how to inspect proposals, specify communities of interest considered, detail population-to-member ratios and reasons, and provide a submission period of at least 1 month.

b) Submission Handling:

- Acknowledge receipt of submissions in writing.
- Offer submitters the chance to be heard if requested.
- Inform submitters about the hearing opportunity and process.
- Ensure meetings for hearing submissions or deliberations are public (with some exceptions).
- Make all written submissions publicly available, subject to information act provisions

## Attachments

1. SR C- Representation- Initial Proposal- Public Notice-180724 [**10.1.1** - 3 pages]
2. 2024 Representation Review Submissions [**10.1.2** - 40 pages]

## Notice of Representation Arrangements Review Initial Proposal



Under section 19I of the Local Electoral Act 2001, the Southland Regional Council (known as Environment Southland) is required to carry out a review of its representation arrangements for at least the 2025 triennial elections.

On 17 July 2024, Council resolved that the following proposal apply for the elections to be held on 11 October 2025:

- (a) It is proposed that Environment Southland comprises 12 councillors elected from six constituencies, these being:
  - (i) **Fiordland Constituency** (represented by one councillor), comprising the area delineated on SO Plan 11503 deposited with Land Information New Zealand, the boundaries of which are shown on Attachment 1;
  - (ii) **Eastern-Dome Constituency** (represented by two councillors), comprising the area delineated on Plan LG-15-2019-Con-2 deposited with the Local Government Commission with the exclusion of one meshblock to be moved into the Hokonui Constituency (3051900), the boundaries of which are shown on Attachment 1;
  - (iii) **Western Constituency** (represented by one councillor), comprising the area delineated on SO Plan 386355 deposited with Land Information New Zealand, with the exclusion of nine meshblocks to be moved into the Hokonui Constituency (3077600, 3077702, 3179400, 3179300, 3183400, 3074500, 3183100, 3183200 and 3183500), and the inclusion of three meshblocks to be moved from the Hokonui Constituency (3078900, 3079300 and 3166704), the boundaries of which are shown on Attachment 1;
  - (iv) **Hokonui Constituency** (represented by one councillor), comprising the area delineated on Plan LG-15-2019Con-3 deposited with the Local Government Commission, with the exclusion of three meshblocks to be moved into the Western Constituency (3078900, 3079300 and 3166704), the inclusion of nine meshblocks to be moved from the Western Constituency (3077600, 3077702, 3179400, 3179300, 3183400, 3074500, 3183100, 3183200 and 3183500), and the inclusion of one meshblock to be moved from the Eastern Dome Constituency (3051900), the boundaries of which are shown on Attachment 1.
  - (v) **Southern Constituency** (represented by one councillor), comprising the area delineated on Plan LG-15-2019Con-4 deposited with the Local Government Commission, the boundaries of which are shown on Attachment 1.
  - (vi) **Invercargill-Rakiura Constituency** (represented by six councillors), comprising the area delineated on SO Plan 301281 deposited with Land Information New Zealand, the boundaries of which are shown on Attachment 1.
- (b) The six constituencies, the number of councillors per constituency, the constituency populations (estimated as at 30 June 2023) and the population ratio per councillor are as follows:

Constituency	Population	Councillors	Average	% Difference
Eastern-Dome Constituency	17,330	2	8,665	-0.02%
Fiordland Constituency	4,690	1	4,690	-45.88%

Hokonui Constituency	8,660	1	8,660	-0.08%
Invercargill-Rakiura Constituency	58,310	6	9,718	12.13%
Southern Constituency	7,140	1	7,140	-17.62%
Western Constituency	7,870	1	7,870	-9.19%
<b>Total</b>	<b>104,000</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>8,667</b>	

- (c) In accordance with section 19V(2) of the Local Electoral Act 2001, the population that each constituency councillor represents must be within the population range of 8,667 plus or minus 10% (7,800 – 9,533) unless particular community of interest considerations justify otherwise.

The initial proposal does not comply with section 19V(2) of the Local Electoral Act 2001 and, if resolved as the final proposal, must be referred to the Local Government Commission for determination. Council has investigated adjusting constituency boundaries to achieve compliance, however consider that doing so would divide existing communities of interest.

- (d) The reason for the boundary changes to the Eastern-Dome, Hokonui and Western Constituencies (as shown in Attachment 1) is to reflect boundary changes being proposed by Southland District Council.

**Further information**

Copies of the Representation Review 2024 - Initial Proposal for Environment Southland are available from the Council office at 220 North Road, Waikiwi, Invercargill. Relevant information is also available on Council’s website: [www.es.govt.nz/about-us/consultations/representation-review-2024](http://www.es.govt.nz/about-us/consultations/representation-review-2024)

**Submissions**

The initial proposal has been submitted for formal consultation, including inviting written submissions from any interested person or organisation. Submissions should be addressed to: Environment Southland, Freepost 247418, Private Bag 90116, Invercargill 9840.

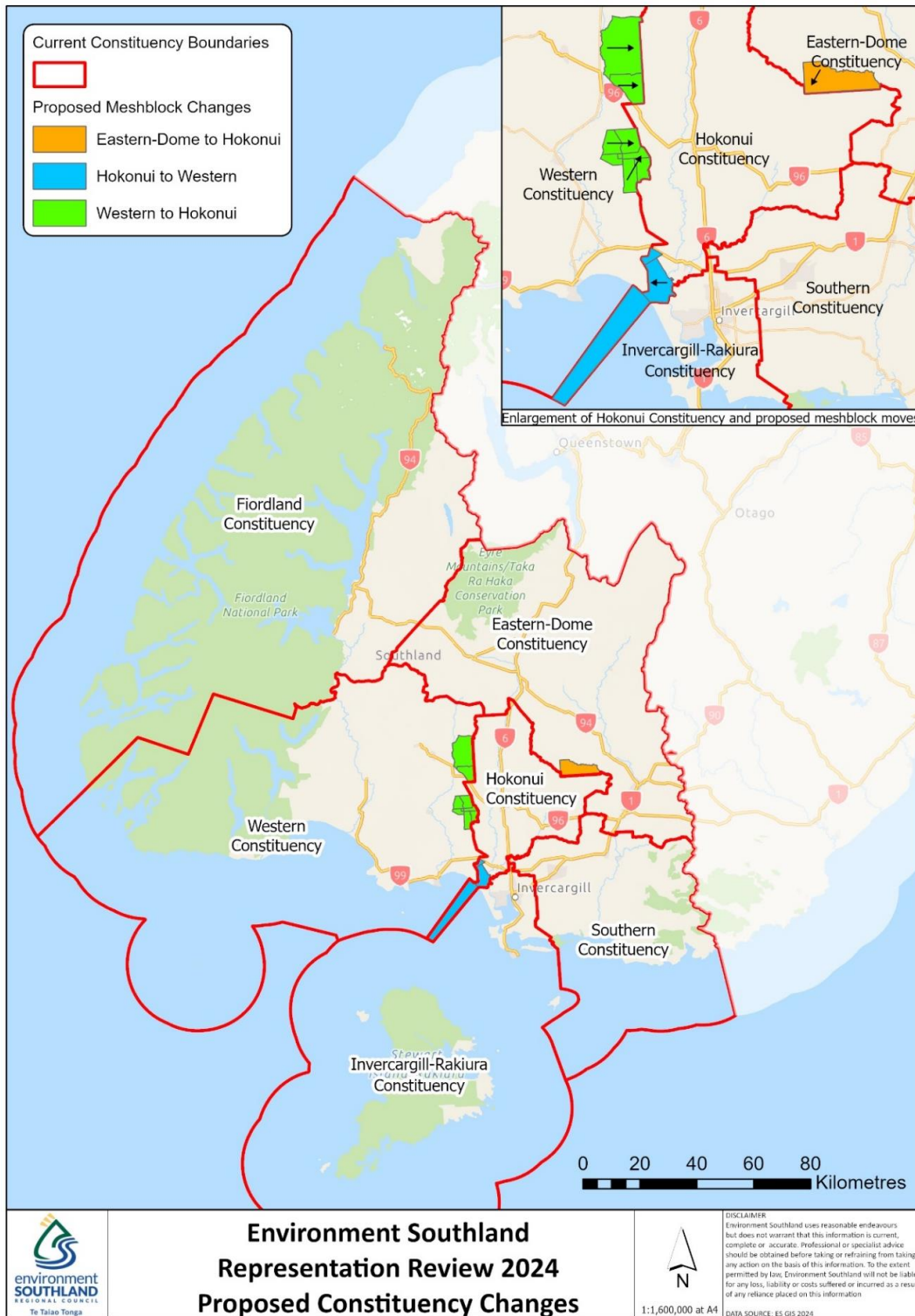
Submissions can also be emailed to: [service@es.govt.nz](mailto:service@es.govt.nz)

Submissions should state your name, address, telephone number and email address (if you have one) and should reach the Council no later than **5.00pm on Monday 19 August 2024**.

Council will read and consider all submissions. Please clearly state if you wish to speak in support of your submission and note that any submission made will be available to the public. Hearings and meetings on the review will be open to the public.

Wilma Falconer  
**Chief Executive**  
 19 July 2024

**Attachment 1 – Proposed constituency changes**





## Representation Review 2024 - Initial Proposal

Submitters being heard

For **now**  
& **our future**

Cnr North Rd & Price St, Invercargill | DX No. YX20175 | Private Bag 90116, Invercargill 9840 | 03 211 5115 or 0800 76 88 45 | [service@es.govt.nz](mailto:service@es.govt.nz) | [www.es.govt.nz](http://www.es.govt.nz)



Stewart Island/Rakiura Community Board

08 August 2024



Submission Form



04

Contact details

Name: Aaron Conner
Organisation (if representing): Stewart Island/Rakiura Community Board
Organisation role: Chair
Postal address: Section 53
Postcode: Section 53
Email: Section 53
Phone: Section 53
Signature: Section 53

Do you agree with Council keeping the current number of councillors?
Yes No

Please explain why (optional)

One more if Stewart Island/Rakiura is represented.

Do you agree with Council keeping the current number of constituencies?
Yes No

Please explain why (optional)

We believe Stewart Island/Rakiura needs representation as a community of special interest.

Do you agree with Council keeping the current number of councillors representing each constituency?
Yes No

Please explain why (optional)

(see above)
Possibly one from Invercargill reallocated to Stewart Island Rakiura.



7

**Stewart Island/Rakiura Community Board**

**08 August 2024**



Do you agree with Council keeping the current names of the six constituencies?

Yes  No

Please explain why (optional)

(see above) - (add Stewart Island Rakiura).

Do you agree with the proposed constituency boundary changes?

Yes  No

Please explain why (optional)

(see above).

If you have any other suggestions for changes to the initial proposal, please provide these below:

Create a Stewart Island Rakiura constituency.  
Interaction with the community almost non-existent.  
If this is not possible we identify more closely with Western than Invercargill.

Do you wish to speak to your submission at a Council hearing?

The Hearing (if needed) is currently scheduled for Wednesday 28 August 2024. There will be the ability to present in person or remotely. If you select 'Yes', we will contact you at the close of submissions to arrange your time.

Yes, I would like to speak to my submission (via Teams)  
 No, I do not want to speak to my submission

Please contact us on 0800 76 88 45 if you want to submit in a different way e.g. verbally.

*The Council is legally required to make all written or electronic submissions available to the public. Your name, submission and any attachments will be treated as public information. Your contact information (phone number, email address, and/or address), will not be made publicly available, but will be used by Council staff for administration and analysis purposes. If you consider there are compelling reasons why your name and/or submission should be kept confidential, please contact the Council to make your request known.*

*The collection and use of personal information is held by Council in accordance with the Privacy Act 2020. You have the right to access and correct personal information.*

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- ▶ Freepost to:  
Environment Southland  
Freepost 247418  
Private Bag 90116  
Invercargill 9840





# Representation Review 2024 Initial proposal

03



## Submission Form

### Contact details

Name: Lloyd J McCallum

Organisation (if representing): \_\_\_\_\_

Organisation role: \_\_\_\_\_

Postal address: Section 53 \_\_\_\_\_ Postcode: Section 53 \_\_\_\_\_

Email: Section 53 \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: Section 53 \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: Section 53 \_\_\_\_\_

### Do you agree with Council keeping the current number of councillors?

Yes  No

Please explain why (optional)

Yes

---



---

### Do you agree with Council keeping the current number of constituencies?

Yes  No

Please explain why (optional)

No. Should be 2 Constituencies 1 from Invercargill 6 Councillors  
1 from Country 6 Councillors

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### Do you agree with Council keeping the current number of councillors representing each constituency?

Yes  No

Please explain why (optional)

No.

Many ratepayers communicate with who they know, and not their constituencies councilor.

Representation is one thing ALL ES councilors struggle with.

Have you heard from a councilor around the council table say in my area, 25% support, 42% do not support and 33% do not know as an example, I believe you will only hear one view from each councilor.

ES itself would rather talk to other sector groups and not ratepayers.

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**Do you agree with Council keeping the current names of the six constituencies?**

Yes  No

Please explain why (optional)

**NO**

**Invercargill and Country or Rual or greater southland.**

**You may have other options you prefer**

**Do you agree with the proposed constituency boundary changes?**

Yes  No

Please explain why (optional)

**NO**

**People do not like changes like you have indicated because they find on voting day the person, they thought they were going to vote for is not on their voting paper.**

**If you have any other suggestions for changes to the initial proposal, please provide these below:**

**You are a \$40M business, therefore you need the very best leaders you can find/elect.**

**Your councilors need directorship training.**

**Representation - "the act of representing. the state of being represented. the expression or designation by some term, character, symbol, or the like. action or speech on behalf of a person, group, business house, state, or the like by an agent, deputy, or representative."**

**Are you representing my views, my sector views, my district views etc. Or just your own?**

**Big changes are coming, and you need to be pro-active in leading to meet these challenges, the public and ratepayers feel you are disconnected from them.**

**Do you wish to speak to your submission at a Council hearing?**

The Hearing (if needed) is currently scheduled for Wednesday 28 August 2024. There will be the ability to present in person or remotely. If you select 'Yes', we will contact you at the close of submissions to arrange your time.

Yes, I would like to speak to my submission **YES**

No, I do not want to speak to my submission

**Please contact us on 0800 76 88 45 if you want to submit in a different way e.g. verbally.**

*The Council is legally required to make all written or electronic submissions available to the public. Your name, submission and any attachments will be treated as public information. Your contact information (phone number, email address, and/or address), will not be made publicly available, but will be used by Council staff for administration and analysis purposes. If you consider there are compelling reasons why your name and/or submission should be kept confidential, please contact the Council to make your request known.*

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- ▶ Freepost to:  
Environment Southland  
Freepost 247418  
Private Bag 90116  
Invercargill 9840



07



## Federated Farmers of New Zealand

### Environment Southland Representation Review

19 August 2024

0800  
327  
646 | FED  
FARM  
.ORG.NZ

**SUBMISSION TO ENVIRONMENT SOUTHLAND  
ON ITS REPRESENTATION REVIEW PROPOSAL 2024**

**Submitter details**

Name of submitter: Southland Province, Federated Farmers of New Zealand

Contact person: Rachel Thomas  
Senior Policy Advisor

Address for service: Federated Farmers of New Zealand  
PO Box 20448,  
Bishopdale,  
Christchurch 8543

Mobile:

Section 53

Email:

Section 53

## **SUBMISSION ON THE ENVIRONMENT SOUTHLAND REPRESENTATION REVIEW 2024**

### **Introduction**

Federated Farmers welcomes the opportunity to provide feedback on the Environment Southland Representation Review 2024.

Federated Farmers of New Zealand is a voluntary, primary sector organisation that represents farming and other rural businesses. Federated Farmers has a long and proud history of representing the needs and interests of New Zealand farmers and their communities.

Federated Farmers aims to add value to its members' farming businesses by ensuring that New Zealand provides an economic and social environment within which:

- Our members may operate their businesses in a fair and flexible commercial environment;
- Our members' families and their staff have access to services essential to the needs of the rural community; and
- Our members adopt responsible management and environmental practices.

### **Key points**

1. Federated Farmers in its recent submissions to the Council had highlighted the concerns with increasing costs and pressure on the rural ratepayers who are expected to carry the bulk of the financial burden.
2. A recent media release from the Southland District Council Mayor has raised the question of reducing the number of Southland Councils from 4 to 2.<sup>1</sup> Feds support opportunities where efficiencies in the systems can be looked at and explored. We encourage council to not focus on the status quo, but seriously consider opportunities for efficiencies across the Southland Councils.
3. Federated Farmers understands the process of the representation review – but these other factors also need to be considered, as the decisions from the representation review will lock the region in for the next 6 years.
4. With such serious questions being raised about the region, its representation, the increasing pressure on a decreasing population of ratepayers, the time is now to take a serious review of the efficiencies of the current system and explore what other options could work, including exploring local government reform which could see the merging of councils into a unitary body.

---

<sup>1</sup> [Mayor wants the four Southland councils to become two | Stuff](#)

5. A more efficient system with shared services (for example), would provide better value for money for ratepayers, and potentially give the councils a stronger voice in lobbying government for increased funding for priority projects for the region.
6. Federated Farmers understands the requirement for the review and the specifications required under the Local Electoral Act 2001. The Act requires that to ensure effective and fair representation, the council consider the number of people represented within each constituency, the number of communities of interest within each constituency, and the alignment of constituencies to council boundaries/wards.
7. Regulatory pressures for the rural sector have been overwhelming over the last few years. These processes and how they have been implemented by Council have been controversial and potentially have a great impact on the economic wellbeing and viability of rural communities. Effective representation of rural constituencies is necessary to ensure the appropriate oversight, equity, and ensure all voices are heard.
8. A review of council services under s17A of the Local Government Act would provide an opportunity for Council to explore all alternative options to look at improving the cost burden on ratepayers. Any decision-making process that impacts the community at this level would require in-depth consultation and engagement to ensure that any efficiencies or cost cuttings eventuate into tangible ratepayer savings.
9. The status quo as it is, is unacceptable and unsustainable. The representation review represents an opportunity for real change reflecting the needs of all ratepayers and community. Environment Southland has an opportunity to work with other councils to assess representation options. Southland Federated Farmers support investigation into the opportunities of a unitary authority for the region.

### **Conclusion**

Federated Farmers thanks the Environment Southland for the opportunity to submit on its 2024 representation review

Southland Federated Farmers



## ENVIRONMENT SOUTHLAND REPRESENTATION REVIEW.

2024

**10**

### RATEPAYER CONCERNS.

1. Effective representation has been replaced by management capture at ES.
2. Iwi and NGO input at multiple levels with no public scrutiny further exacerbates the erosion of effective representation.
3. The disregard of ratepayer submissions in the recent LTP "consultation" is illustrative of the concern held by ratepayers.
4. The quality and accountability of governance and management in oversight of the Stead St Pump fiasco has undermined confidence.
5. Confidence has been further eroded by the move to a regional CV rate which further erodes transparency and accountability.
6. The deliberate shift of funding responsibility to rural ratepayers to fund urban infrastructure.
7. Governance and management disregard of science to meet predetermined outcomes.
8. The move away from core business.

### DISCUSSION

The ES direction of travel is unsustainable.

Representative governance has failed to respond to local economic conditions, scientific findings or Central Government direction.

Management capture of the Regional Forum process illustrates the dysfunctional nature of representation at ES.

While Iwi were actively involved prior to, during and following the process, interested ratepayers were actively precluded from participation.

Despite representations to Council this injustice was not addressed.

Council's unwillingness to address fundamental issues such as management performance (eg Stead St Pump), science inputs (eg Aparima N levels & IPCC input) or change in funding system, questions the quality of governance (representation) and/or management advice.

Focusing on minor alterations of boundaries is akin to shifting the deck chairs on the Titanic.

---

While I have always favoured "One Council" for all of Southland (ie one unitary council), the recent proposal from Southland Mayor Rob Scott does have some attraction in that it carves off the cost impost of Invercargill projects on rural ratepayers.

How would Invercargill ratepayers respond to meeting the total cost blow out of the Stead St Pump?

Only when there is a direct relationship between the provision of a service and the funding of that service, will there be quality decisions made regarding the type and quantity of service, and efficiency in their provision.

I have lost confidence that the current governance structure can deliver the community "FAIR AND EFFECTIVE REPRESENTATION"

Doug Fraser

Section 53

Yes I would like to speak to my submission

L Ocallaghan  
 Section 53  
 Invercargill  
 19 August 2024

Submission on Representation Review /Environment Southland

I submit that the current Representation proposal is inadequate; serving to perpetuate and approve continued imbalance and unfairness, and distortion of the public voice; I submit the Representation Proposal must be changed to allow 1 additional councillor within the Invercargill -Rakiura ward.

The current lack of representation within Invercargill-Rakiura Ward at 12% is significant. A 12% variation cannot be dismissed as insignificant when this electorate is so large, representing half of Southlanders. .  
 Under-representation within the Invercargill- Rakiura ward *denies fair representative voice to 58,000 Southland residents . (6 wards x 9718 voters)*  
*In contrast, the 45% over-representation of the Fiordland Ward only magnifies the voice of 4,690 voters*

I submit that Under-representation of 58,000 Southlanders *obligates* Environment Southland to act, to re-balance representation: and gain an extra councillor, either by re-allocation of councillors within wards, or via an extra allocated seat. I submit re-allocation of 12 Councillors within Wards would be the most simple and cost-effective , as well as the public preference.

The electoral process *must* be upheld as fair.  
 The population of Southland has changed in the 6 years since last review and *there cannot be effective democracy* if the urban voice of 58,000 southlanders in the Invercargill-Rakiura Ward are not fairly represented.

Amendment ought in fact be a matter of course, given it is a simple procedural matter, that can be achieved with minimal cost , if councillor numbers are re-allocated. There ought be an absence of reluctance from all 12 elected Councillors of Environment Southland to vote to achieve a path for updated and fair representation to Southlands changed, increasing population,

To *not* vote for amendment and an extra candidate for Invercargill- Rakiura Ward implies disrespect for upholding principles of democratic representation. And disrespect to 58,000 residents of Invercargill-Rakiura, *who have lost equality with their rural colleagues*. The 58,000 residents of Invercargill -Rakiura Ward have an equal sense of belonging to wider Southland, and the same interest in best most practicable, oversight and outcomes of our shared Southland environment, coast, air, and all that Environment Southland stewards under Law.

Environment Southland, in its current proposal is rubber-stamping and approving continued unfairness of representative for 58,000 Southlanders living in Invercargill-Rakiura, for another 6 years. *The current Representation Proposal gives the voice of 58,000 people less weight* than the voice of their rural counterparts. This is not appropriate, when change and correction can be achieved effectively with simple administrative decision and minimal costs

On display to the public, is that the alteration of Wards according to boundary occurred proactively at last Representation Review in 2018, with apparent higher regard and higher priority, than adjustment for population increase in the Electorate. The decisions proposed now, entrench lack of representation for half of Southlanders for the next 6 years.

I ask all 12 Councillors to uphold the responsibility to ensure fair democratic representation tof the diverse voices of Southlanders.

Thank you

# Submission Form

**HAVE YOUR SAY**

By 5pm,  
19 August 2024

**11**

## Contact details

Name: Josh Cumberland

Organisation (if representing): \_\_\_\_\_

Organisation role: \_\_\_\_\_

Postal address: **Section 53**

Postcode: **Section 53**

Email: **Section 53**

Phone: **Section 53**

Signature: **Section 53**



Do you agree with Council keeping the current number of councillors?

Yes  No

Please explain why (optional)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

*received over counter*

Do you agree with Council keeping the current number of constituencies?

Yes  No

Please explain why (optional)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Do you agree with Council keeping the current number of councillors representing each constituency?

Yes  No

Please explain why (optional)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Do you agree with Council keeping the current names of the six constituencies?**

Yes  No

Please explain why (optional)

They should be changed to the historic Maori names so the majority of the electorate will struggle to comprehend and pronounce.

**Do you agree with the proposed constituency boundary changes?**

Yes  No

Please explain why (optional)

If you have any other suggestions for changes to the initial proposal, please provide these below:

It's clear that the actions of the council aren't reflecting the democratic input of the people.

Pedantic shifts in representation ratios aren't going to fix that.

**Do you wish to speak to your submission at a Council hearing?**

The Hearing (if needed) is currently scheduled for Wednesday 28 August 2024. There will be the ability to present in person or remotely. If you select 'Yes', we will contact you at the close of submissions to arrange your time.

Yes, I would like to speak to my submission  
 No, I do not want to speak to my submission

**Please contact us on 0800 76 88 45 if you want to submit in a different way e.g. verbally.**

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Private Bag 90116  
Invercargill 9840





## **Submission - Environment Southland Representation Review 2024 - Initial Proposal**

### **Introduction**

This submission is on the Initial Proposal adopted for consultation by Environment Southland (ES) in accordance with its obligations under the Local Electoral Act 2001 (the Act).

The Initial Proposal proposes to retain the status quo in terms of representation arrangements for the region, and it is Invercargill City Council's (ICC) view that this arrangement no longer provides for fair and effective representation for the residents of the Invercargill-Rakiura constituency, given the breach of the plus or minus 10% rule in the Act.

It is ICC's view that this level of breach is no longer acceptable and does not adequately provide for this Community of Interest's representative needs at a regional level.

ICC is proposing two solutions to ES, these are to add an additional Councillor to the Invercargill-Rakiura constituency or to remove one of the current constituencies and that Councillor moves to Invercargill-Rakiura and the former constituency be amalgamated into the remaining rural areas, to try and ensure the population ratio is closer to the plus or minus 10% rule, across all constituencies.

### **Substantive Submission**

The Initial Proposal, as presented by ES retains the status quo of Councillors and constituencies.

This means that Invercargill City (being all the area under the administration of ICC) and the Southland District Council Ward of Rakiura are retained as one constituency with six Councillors to represent this population, being 58,310<sup>1</sup>. This means one Councillor per 9,718 people.

For ES to retain the current number of Councillors, and to keep within the plus or minus 10% rule, there should be 8,667 people per one Councillor.

Invercargill-Rakiura are over that number by 12.13%, meaning it is in breach of the plus or minus 10% rule.

No other constituency is under represented. Two constituencies are over represented, meaning they have a Councillor where the population does not warrant one in terms of the number of 8,667. Fiordland is in breach of the rule by -45.88% and Southern is in breach by -17.62%, the other constituencies are within the plus or minus 10% threshold.

This means that ES have a representation problem as Invercargill-Rakiura is under represented and Southern and Fiordland are over represented when looking purely at the numbers.

---

<sup>1</sup> According to the figures in the Initial Proposal.

The issue with this is that the mainly urban voice of Invercargill, as well as the largest single proportion of ES ratepayers are not being heard adequately at ES. There are not sufficient Councillors to speak to the urban issues facing Invercargill, and because of the over representation, rural voices are having more voting rights than the population entitles them to. This can lead to adverse decisions or decisions that are weighted more in favour of rural areas over urban areas, because the representation distribution is out of alignment with the population.

People are the driving voice for electoral rights, it is not land mass, and it is people who have the right to vote and to exercise that right. They need to know that their voices are being heard in a proportionate manner to ensure that their interests are being heard and respected by the organisations that are in place to represent them.

The Initial Proposal does not do this, it disempowers voters in Invercargill-Rakiura as their votes are less important than those who represent a larger land area, but less people, that is not right, fair, equitable or what the Act intended.

This submission does not seek to diminish the value that rural voices bring or the importance of the rural sector to wider Southland, rather it seeks to address the current imbalance ES has in its representative makeup.

### **Changes ICC would like to see**

There are two options that ICC see as addressing this issue, both see an extra Councillor added to the Invercargill-Rakiura constituency, taking the number to seven. The first option is to increase the number of Councillors with the additional Councillor added to Invercargill- Rakiura. The other option, is not favoured, but would see the Fiordland constituency removed, the Councillor added to Invercargill-Rakiura and all boundaries are adjusted.

### ***Increase the number of Councillors to 13***

This submission sees the total number of ES Councillors increase to 13. As a Regional Council, ES is allowed to have a maximum of 14 Councillors<sup>2</sup>, moving to 13 Councillors will keep ES under the maximum allowable.

This would mean that on a population of 103,870<sup>3</sup>, with 13 Councillors that would be one Councillor per 7,990 people.

Plus 10% is a population of 8,789 per Councillor and minus 10 % is a population of 7,191 per Councillor.

With this lower ratio, there is a greater amount of representation for each constituency.

There would be no constituencies under represented as the Invercargill-Rakiura figure of people per Councillor comes back to 8,330<sup>4</sup>, this is within the plus 10% allowance.

Fiordland and Southern both would continue to be over represented, however the percentage of this over-representation will reduce, Southern will only just be under the lower end of the minus 10% rule figure<sup>5</sup>.

This change will see ES ensure that there is fair representation at the regional level leaving no area under represented.

<sup>2</sup> Section 19D of the Act

<sup>3</sup> As per the Initial Proposal

<sup>4</sup> Population of 58,310, divided by 7 Councillors

<sup>5</sup> 7,191 as the lower end of plus or minus 10% while the Southern population is 7,140.

This appears to be the fairest approach to ICC, as it enables all distinct areas of Southland to have a representative voice at the regional level and notes that the various communities of Southland are all able to be heard in proportion to the number of voters, and does not give rural areas a greater level of representation than their population deserves but does not result in a "tyranny of the majority" as there is a high level of constituencies covering areas that are not a majority of urban.

**Remove the Fiordland Constituency**

This option would see the Fiordland Constituency dis-established, the Councillor transferred to Invercargill-Rakiura and the population distributed to other constituencies that all increase as a consequence.

Invercargill-Rakiura would remain at a ratio of 8,330 per Councillor, this will be slightly under the mean figure of 8,667, so well within the plus or minus 10% rule.

The Fiordland population would need to be divided between the other constituencies, resulting, most likely in a major change in all constituencies as it is noted that the two neighbouring constituencies, Eastern Dome and Western are already both close to the middle number of 8,667, meaning dividing the Fiordland population between both constituencies would mean both will go over the plus 10% meaning they will become under-represented.

For this reason, this is not the preferred option of ICC, as it will result in significant rework and will mean that the Fiordland communities will have less effective representation.

**Recommendation**

ICC submits that it is time for ES to address the under-representation that has occurred for the residents of Invercargill-Rakiura. The fairest way is to add an additional Councillor to represent that constituency.

It is noted that it is not often that there is a call to add another Councillor to any elected body, however in these circumstances it makes the most sense to ICC as the simplest way to address the under-representation that has been occurring at ES.

Retaining the current number will require a significant amount of work to rework all constituency boundaries, and is really only at best window dressing, as that would not address the longer term issue of population growth in the Invercargill-Rakiura constituency and the decline that has occurred in many rural areas (noting of course that this is a New Zealand wide trend and not unique to Southland).

ICC does acknowledge the hard work of Environment Southland's staff in preparing the Initial Proposal and circulating that for consultation.

ICC wishes to speak to this submission at any hearing.



Mayor





## Representation Review 2024 - Initial Proposal

Submitters not being heard

For **now**  
& **our future**

Cnr North Rd & Price St, Invercargill | DX No. YX20175 | Private Bag 90116, Invercargill 9840 | 03 211 5115 or 0800 76 88 45 | [service@es.govt.nz](mailto:service@es.govt.nz) | [www.es.govt.nz](http://www.es.govt.nz)



01

# Submission Form

### Contact details

Name: MARION MILLER

Organisation (if representing): —

Organisation role: —

Postal address: Section 53

Postcode: Section 53

Email: Section 53

Phone: Section 53

Signature: Section 53

Do you agree with Council keeping the current number of councillors?

Yes  No

Please explain why (optional)

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Do you agree with Council keeping the current number of constituencies?

Yes  No

Please explain why (optional)

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Do you agree with Council keeping the current number of councillors representing each constituency?

Yes  No

Please explain why (optional)

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**Do you agree with Council keeping the current names of the six constituencies?**

Yes  No

Please explain why (optional)

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**Do you agree with the proposed constituency boundary changes?**

Yes  No

Please explain why (optional)

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If you have any other suggestions for changes to the initial proposal, please provide these below:

= Increase The term of councillor's from 3 yrs. to 4 yrs.  
= That there is a limit on the terms a person can be eligible to serve eg. 3 four yr terms maximum - (too many councillors staying in role for too long - needs refresh people - Input!)

**Do you wish to speak to your submission at a Council hearing?**

The Hearing (if needed) is currently scheduled for Wednesday 28 August 2024. There will be the ability to present in person or remotely. If you select 'Yes', we will contact you at the close of submissions to arrange your time.

Yes, I would like to speak to my submission  
 No, I do not want to speak to my submission

**Please contact us on 0800 76 88 45 if you want to submit in a different way e.g. verbally.**

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Environment Southland  
Freepost 247418  
Private Bag 90116  
Invercargill 9840



mail bag  
8:27am



02

# Submission Form

### Contact details

Name: MR Brian Robert Nicholson.

Organisation (if representing): NIL

Organisation role: NIL

Postal address: Section 53 Postcode: Section 53

Email: No Email Phone: NZ

Signature: Section 53

Do you agree with Council keeping the current number of councillors?

Yes  No

Please explain why (optional)  
Now only 6 should be 12.

Do you agree with Council keeping the current number of constituencies?

Yes  No

Please explain why (optional)  
6 should be enough now 2024, but could be increased 2025

Do you agree with Council keeping the current number of councillors representing each constituency?

Yes  No

Please explain why (optional)  
should be increased / work load spread out a lot more.



Do you agree with Council keeping the current names of the six constituencies?

Yes  No

Please explain why (optional)

So that all the Council knows of ALL six

Do you agree with the proposed constituency boundary changes?

Yes  No

Please explain why (optional)

keep as is 2024 = change 2025 or 2026.

If you have any other suggestions for changes to the initial proposal, please provide these below:

Handwritten scribbles on the lines provided for other suggestions.

Do you wish to speak to your submission at a Council hearing?

The Hearing (if needed) is currently scheduled for Wednesday 28 August 2024. There will be the ability to present in person or remotely. If you select 'Yes', we will contact you at the close of submissions to arrange your time.

Yes, I would like to speak to my submission  
 No, I do not want to speak to my submission

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Invercargill 9840



06



**TE AO  
MĀRAMA INC.**

14 August 2024

Wilma Falconer  
Chief Executive Officer  
Environment Southland  
Private Bag 90116,  
Invercargill 9810  
[consultation@es.govt.nz](mailto:consultation@es.govt.nz)

Tēnā Koe Wilma,

**RE: Environment Southland Representation Review**

Please find attached a submission lodged, on behalf of Ngā Rūnanga on the Representation Review under the Local Electoral Act 2001.

We trust the information contained within the submission is sufficient; however, should you wish to discuss any aspect further, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Nāhaku noa nā,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D Whaanga'.

Dean Whaanga  
Kaupapa Taiao Kaiwhakahaere  
Te Ao Mārama Inc.

---

TE AO MĀRAMA INC. | P. 03 931 1242 | E. [office@tami.maori.nz](mailto:office@tami.maori.nz) | A. 98 Yarrow Street, Invercargill 9810

## LOCAL ELECTORAL ACT 2001

### ENVIRONMENT SOUTHLAND REPRESENTATION REVIEW SUBMISSION

#### INTRODUCTION

1. This feedback has been prepared by Te Ao Mārama Incorporated on behalf of Waihopai Rūnaka, Ōraka Aparima Rūnaka, Te Rūnanga o Awarua and Hokonui Rūnanga (from herein referred to as ngā Rūnanga).
2. This response is provided without prejudice to legal action Ngāi Tahu and its Papatipu Rūnanga are currently undertaking, or any other claims or allegations made, against the Crown. In particular, nothing in this feedback overrides or limits any pleadings in the Ngāi Tahu wai māori case<sup>1</sup> or the judicial review of various decisions made by the Minister of Conservation in the administration of the Conservation Act 1987.<sup>2</sup>
3. Environment Southland is seeking feedback in summary on:
  - 1) Retaining twelve councillors
  - 2) Retaining the number of councillors representing each constituency
  - 3) Making minor changes to the boundaries impacting the Eastern-Dome, Hokonui and Western constituencies to better align with the Southland District Council ward boundaries
  - 4) Retaining the names of the constituencies
  - 5) Retaining the current non-alignment between our Hokonui and Southern constituencies and the Southland District Council's Ōreti and Waihōpai Toetoe ward boundaries (where they join the north boundary of the ICC). Alignment would significantly increase the level of non-compliance with the fair representation criteria for our Southern constituency.
4. A consultation Draft has been circulated to Te Ao Mārama Inc. and ngā Rūnanga.

#### Papatipu Rūnanga

5. Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu Act, 1996 (the TRoNT Act) and the Ngāi Tahu Claims Settlement Act, 1998 (the Settlement Act) recognise the status of Papatipu Rūnanga

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<sup>1</sup> *Tau & Ors v Attorney-General*, HC Christchurch CIV 2020-409-534.

<sup>2</sup> CIV 2020-409-000-521 and CIV 2021-485-342

as kaitiaki and mana whenua of the natural resources within their takiwā boundaries, in conjunction with Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu as the iwi authority.

6. The consultation matters relate to lands and waters within the takiwā boundaries of ngā Rūnanga.
7. Specifically, the takiwā of each Papatipu Rūnanga is described in the Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu (Declaration of Membership) Order 2001 as follows:

*Te Rūnanga o Awarua*

The takiwā of Te Runanga o Awarua centres on Awarua and extends to the coasts and estuaries adjoining Waihopai sharing an interest in the lakes and mountains between Whakatipu-Waitai and Tawhititarere with other Murihiku Rūnanga and those located from Waihemo southwards.

*Waihopai Rūnaka*

The takiwā of Waihopai Rūnaka centres on Waihopai and extends northwards to Te Matau sharing an interest in the lakes and mountains to the western coast with other Murihiku Rūnanga and those located from Waihemo southwards.

*Te Rūnanga o Ōraka-Aparima*

The takiwā of Te Rūnanga o Ōraka Aparima centres on Ōraka and extends from Waimatuku to Tawhititarere sharing an interest in the lakes and mountains from Whakatipu-Waitai to Tawhititarere with other Murihiku Rūnanga and those located from Waihemo southwards.

*Hokonui Rūnaka*

The takiwa of Hokonui Runaka centres on the Hokonui region and includes a shared interest in the lakes and mountains between Whakatipu-Waitai and Tawhititarere with other Murihiku Runanga and those located from Waihemo southwards.

*Te Ao Mārama Incorporated*

11. Ngāi Tahu ki Murihiku formed an entity known as Te Ao Mārama Incorporated in 1996, which is currently made up of representatives from ngā Rūnanga.
12. Te Ao Mārama Inc. is authorised to represent these four Papatipu Rūnanga ki Murihiku in resource management and local government matters.



## REASONS FOR FEEDBACK

13. Ngā Rūnanga are seeking a long term, partnership approach to local government and resource management in Murihiku based on genuine Treaty partnership, recognising and providing for the rights, interests and values of mana whenua, including rangatiratanga.
14. Mana Whenua Representative seats on Environment Southland’s Strategy and Policy Committee and Regional Services Committee help to continue to show combined dedication to our Charter of Understanding and a commitment to Partnership aspirations as described above.
15. Opportunities for Mana Whenua to continue to participate in decision making are welcomed and encouraged.
16. Wherever practical, regional councils are required under the Local Electoral Act 2001 to align constituency boundaries with territorial authority ward boundaries. Te Ao Mārama Inc. note that Environment Southland has made minor changes to the boundaries impacting the Eastern-Dome, Hokonui and Western constituencies to better align with the Southland District Council ward boundaries.
17. Te Ao Mārama Inc. note in the proposal from Environment Southland there are three constituencies that do not meet the Local Electoral Act 2001 requirement for achieving fair representation (the ratio of population to elected members). Population, geography and communities of interest, are listed as rational for non-compliance with the fair representation threshold, which means that the constituencies above or below the 10% ratio (Fiordland, Southern and Invercargill-Rakiura) would require Council to seek approval to retain this non-compliance from the Local Government Commission.
18. Te Ao Mārama Inc. trust that Environment Southland will seek the appropriate approval from the Local Government Commission for this non-compliance.

## SUMMARY

19. Te Ao Mārama Inc. wish to submit in support of the proposal, noting the information provided above.
20. Te Ao Mārama Inc. do not wish to speak to the submission.
21. Te Ao Mārama Inc. thank Environment Southland for the opportunity to provide feedback on the initial proposal for the Representation Review.

Nāhaku noa nā



Dean Whaanga  
Te Ao Mārama Inc.  
Kaupapa Taiao Manager





# Representation Review 2024 Initial proposal

## Submission Form



08

### Contact details

Name: Stella O'Connor

Organisation (if representing): Tuatapere Te Wae Wae Community Board

Organisation role: Community partnership leader

Postal address: Section 53 Postcode: Section 53

Email: Section 53 Phone: Section 53

Signature: Section 53

### Do you agree with Council keeping the current number of councillors?

Yes  No

Please explain why (optional)

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### Do you agree with Council keeping the current number of constituencies?

Yes  No

Please explain why (optional)

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### Do you agree with Council keeping the current number of councillors representing each constituency?

Yes  No

Please explain why (optional)

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**We understand the act is population based but there is inequitable access to Councilors due to the large geographic area of the district.**

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**Do you agree with Council keeping the current names of the six constituencies?**

Yes  No

Please explain why (optional)

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**Do you agree with the proposed constituency boundary changes?**

Yes  No

Please explain why (optional)

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**If you have any other suggestions for changes to the initial proposal, please provide these below:**

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**Do you wish to speak to your submission at a Council hearing?**

The Hearing (if needed) is currently scheduled for Wednesday 28 August 2024. There will be the ability to present in person or remotely. If you select 'Yes', we will contact you at the close of submissions to arrange your time.

- Yes, I would like to speak to my submission
- No, I do not want to speak to my submission

**Please contact us on 0800 76 88 45 if you want to submit in a different way e.g. verbally.**

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Invercargill 9840



# Representation Review 2024

## Submission Form



09

### Contact details

Name: Kelly Tagg

Organisation (if representing): Northern Community Board

Organisation role: Community Partnership Leader

Postal address: C/- 15 Forth Street, Invercargill Postcode: 9810

Email: Section 53 Phone: Section 53

Signature: Section 53

Do you agree with Council keeping the current number of councillors?

Yes  No

Please explain why (optional)

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Do you agree with Council keeping the current number of constituencies?

Yes  No

Please explain why (optional)

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Do you agree with Council keeping the current number of councillors representing each constituency?

Yes  No

Please explain why (optional)

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**Do you agree with Council keeping the current names of the six constituencies?**

Yes  No

Please explain why (optional)

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**Do you agree with the proposed constituency boundary changes?**

Yes  No

Please explain why (optional)

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**If you have any other suggestions for changes to the initial proposal, please provide these below:**

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**Do you wish to speak to your submission at a Council hearing?**

The Hearing (if needed) is currently scheduled for Wednesday 28 August 2024. There will be the ability to present in person or remotely. If you select 'Yes', we will contact you at the close of submissions to arrange your time.

- Yes, I would like to speak to my submission
- No, I do not want to speak to my submission

**Please contact us on 0800 76 88 45 if you want to submit in a different way e.g. verbally.**

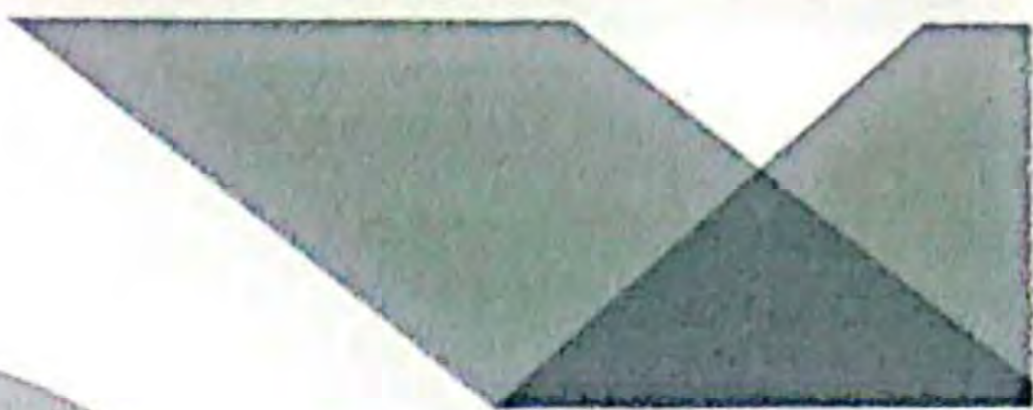
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12

# Submission Form

## Contact details

Name: Chris Dillon

Organisation (if representing): \_\_\_\_\_

Organisation role: \_\_\_\_\_

Postal address: Section

Email: Section Phone: Section

Signature: Section

Do you agree with Council keeping the current number of councillors?

Yes  No

Please explain why (optional) Council needs to consider amalgamation.

Do you agree with Council keeping the current number of constituencies?

Yes  No

Please explain why (optional) Each catchment presents different challenges so it is very important to have local reps.

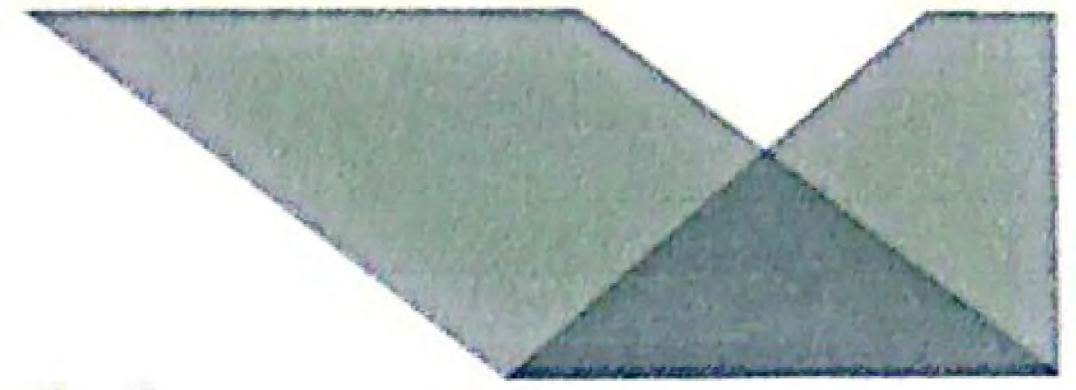
Do you agree with Council keeping the current number of councillors representing each constituency?

Yes  No

Please explain why (optional) We need to look into how combined council would function. Empowering catchment liaison committees similar to how current SDC community boards work would ease workload on councillors and have people on the ground dealing with issues before & as they occur.



7



Do you agree with Council keeping the current names of the six constituencies?

Yes  No

Please explain why (optional)

Needs to be the same as SDC.

Do you agree with the proposed constituency boundary changes?

Yes  No

Please explain why (optional)

Aligns with SDC Boundary.

If you have any other suggestions for changes to the initial proposal, please provide these below:

Catchment groups are seen as a success in the eyes of ES. ~~that~~ Catchment groups are people on the ground. If these community leaders could elect reps to feed into a new system it would be a great outcome. These could be a hybrid of the current SDC community boards.

Do you wish to speak to your submission at a Council hearing?

The Hearing (if needed) is currently scheduled for Wednesday 28 August 2024. There will be the ability to present in person or remotely. If you select 'Yes', we will contact you at the close of submissions to arrange your time.

- Yes, I would like to speak to my submission
- No, I do not want to speak to my submission

Please contact us on 0800 76 88 45 if you want to submit in a different way e.g. verbally.

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Private Bag 90116  
Invercargill 9840





ENVIRONMENT SOUTHLAND  
20 AUG 2024  
Mailbag 8:30am



# Submission Form

13

## Contact details

Name: DAVID & EILEEN LEWIS

Organisation (if representing): - N/A -

Organisation role: - N/A -

Postal address: Section 53

Postcode: Section 53

Email: [Redacted]

Phone: Section 53

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you agree with Council keeping the current number of councillors?

Yes  No

Please explain why (optional)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Do you agree with Council keeping the current number of constituencies?

Yes  No

Please explain why (optional)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Do you agree with Council keeping the current number of councillors representing each constituency?

Yes  No

Please explain why (optional)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



**Do you agree with Council keeping the current names of the six constituencies?**

Yes  No

Please explain why (optional)

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**Do you agree with the proposed constituency boundary changes?**

Yes  No

Please explain why (optional)

Our community of interest lies in the Western district, not in Hokonui. Our home address is in R.D.3, OTAKAU.

If you have any other suggestions for changes to the initial proposal, please provide these below:

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**Do you wish to speak to your submission at a Council hearing?**

The Hearing (if needed) is currently scheduled for Wednesday 28 August 2024. There will be the ability to present in person or remotely. If you select 'Yes', we will contact you at the close of submissions to arrange your time.

Yes, I would like to speak to my submission  
 No, I do not want to speak to my submission

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  - Invercargill 9840





# Representation Review 2024



**14**

## Submission Form

### Contact details

Name: Kelly Tagg

Organisation (if representing): Ardlussa Community Board

Organisation role: Community Partnership Leader

Postal address: C/- 15 Forth Street, Invercargill Postcode: 9810

Email: Section 53 Phone: Section 53

Signature: Section 53

Do you agree with Council keeping the current number of councillors?

Yes  No

Please explain why (optional)

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Do you agree with Council keeping the current number of constituencies?

Yes  No

Please explain why (optional)

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Do you agree with Council keeping the current number of councillors representing each constituency?

Yes  No

Please explain why (optional)

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**Do you agree with Council keeping the current names of the six constituencies?**

Yes  No

Please explain why (optional)

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**Do you agree with the proposed constituency boundary changes?**

Yes  No

Please explain why (optional)

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**If you have any other suggestions for changes to the initial proposal, please provide these below:**

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**Do you wish to speak to your submission at a Council hearing?**

The Hearing (if needed) is currently scheduled for Wednesday 28 August 2024. There will be the ability to present in person or remotely. If you select 'Yes', we will contact you at the close of submissions to arrange your time.

- Yes, I would like to speak to my submission
- No, I do not want to speak to my submission

**Please contact us on 0800 76 88 45 if you want to submit in a different way e.g. verbally.**

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Private Bag 90116  
Invercargill 9840



## 16

Name: Kelly Tagg on behalf of

Organisation: Wallace Takitimu Community Board

Email:

Address: P O Box 903, Invercargill, 9840

**Do you agree with Council keeping the current number of councillors?**

Yes

**Do you agree with Council keeping the current number of constituencies?**

Yes

**Do you agree with Council keeping the current number of councillors representing each constituency?**

Yes

**Do you agree with Council keeping the current names of the six constituencies?**

Yes

**Do you agree with the proposed constituency boundary changes?**

Yes

**Please explain why.**

Good to see boundary changes being in line with SDC boundaries.

**Do you wish to speak to your submission at a Council hearing?**

No, I do not want to speak to my submission

17

Name: Mr Shaun Brankin

Organisation: Farmer

Email: Section 53

Address: Section 53

**Do you agree with Council keeping the current number of councillors?**

Yes

**Do you agree with Council keeping the current number of constituencies?**

Yes

**Do you agree with Council keeping the current number of councillors representing each constituency?**

Yes

**Do you agree with Council keeping the current names of the six constituencies?**

Yes

**Please explain why.**

no need to change names, waste of money and just confuses people

**Do you agree with the proposed constituency boundary changes?**

Yes

**Do you wish to speak to your submission at a Council hearing?**

No, I do not want to speak to my submission

This submission is the same as for submitter 15

18

Graeme Robertson

19 August 2024

Submission on Representation Review /Environment Southland

I submit that the current Representation proposal is inadequate; serving to perpetuate and approve continued imbalance and unfairness, and distortion of the public voice; I submit the Representation - Proposal must be changed to allow 1 additional councillor within the Invercargill -Rakiura ward. —

The current lack of representation within Invercargill-Rakiura Ward at 12% is significant. A 12% variation cannot be dismissed as insignificant when this electorate is so large, representing half of Southlanders. .  
Under-representation within the Invercargill- Rakiura ward *denies fair representative voice to 58,000 Southland residents . (6 wards x 9718 voters)*  
*In contrast, the 45% over-representation of the Fiordland Ward only magnifies the voice of 4,690 voters*

I submit that Under-representation of 58,000 Southlanders *obligates* Environment Southland to act, to re-balance representation: and gain an extra councillor, either by re-allocation of councillors within wards, or via an extra allocated seat. I submit re-allocation of 12 Councillors within Wards would be the most simple and cost-effective , as well as the public preference.

The electoral process *must* be upheld as fair.  
The population of Southland has changed in the 6 years since last review and *there cannot be effective democracy* if the urban voice of 58,000 southlanders in the Invercargill-Rakiura Ward are not fairly represented.

Amendment ought in fact be a matter of course, given it is a simple procedural matter, that can be achieved with minimal cost , if councillor numbers are re-allocated. There ought be an absence of reluctance from all 12 elected Councillors of Environment Southland to vote to achieve a path for updated and fair representation to Southlands changed, increasing population,

To *not* vote for amendment and an extra candidate for Invercargill- Rakiura Ward implies disrespect for upholding principles of democratic representation. And disrespect to 58,000 residents of Invercargill-Rakiura, *who have lost equality with their rural colleagues*. The 58,000 residents of Invercargill -Rakiura Ward have an equal sense of belonging to wider Southland, and the same interest in best most practicable, oversight and outcomes of our shared Southland environment, coast, air, and all that Environment Southland stewards under Law.

Environment Southland, in its current proposal is rubber-stamping and approving continued unfairness of representative for 58,000 Southlanders living in Invercargill-Rakiura, for another 6 years. *The current Representation Proposal gives the voice of 58,000 people less weight* than the voice of their rural counterparts. This is not appropriate, when change and correction can be achieved effectively with simple administrative decision and minimal costs

On display to the public, is that the alteration of Wards according to boundary occurred proactively at last Representation Review in 2018, with apparent higher regard and higher priority, than adjustment for population increase in the Electorate. The decisions proposed now, entrench lack of representation for half of Southlanders for the next 6 years.

I ask all 12 Councillors to uphold the responsibility to ensure fair democratic representation tof the diverse voices of Southlanders.

Thank you

## 11 Extraordinary/urgent business | Panui autia hei totoia pakihi

There were no notifications of extraordinary or urgent business.

## 12 Public excluded business | He hui pakihi e hara mo te iwi

In accordance with section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interest/s protected by section 7 of that act, that the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely:

### 12.1 Retrospective Approval Sought for Council's Overdraft Facility

<b>Section under the act</b>	The grounds on which part of the Council or committee may be closed to the public are listed in s48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (the act)
<b>Sub-clause and reason</b>	S.7(2)(h) - to allow Council to carry out commercial activities without prejudice or disadvantage.

### 12.2 Before the Deluge 2.0 Co-funding projects

<b>Section under the act</b>	The grounds on which part of the Council or committee may be closed to the public are listed in s48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (the act)
<b>Sub-clause and reason</b>	S.7(2)(h) - to enable any local authority holding the information to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.