

Representation Review

Initial Proposal for 2019 Palmerston North City Council elections

Here's Council's proposal on how ratepayers and residents should be represented - have we got it right?

SMALL CITY BENEFITS

BIG CITY AMBITION



Te Kaunihera o Papaioea
Palmerston North City Council

pncc.govt.nz

Palmerston North City Council has reviewed its representation arrangements.

On 27 August 2018, the Council resolved their interim proposal to apply for the elections to be held on 12 October 2019:

Council Representation

It's proposed –

- Councillors be elected on a city-wide basis (that is, by the electors of the city as a whole)
- No wards are established and
- Council comprise the Mayor and 15 Councillors.

This is no change to the present arrangements.

The Council considers Palmerston North City comprises a single community of interest which covers the whole city. The city is geographically compact and relatively small.

There is only one major business district, suburban shopping centres are small and many people reside in one part of the city but work in another.

A city-wide election will also enable all electors to participate in choosing all Councillors.

The proposed number of Councillors will enable the workload to be shared, allows for more diversity of Councillors and encourages a greater variety of ideas and suggestions.

Community Board Representation

It's proposed that no communities or community boards be established in Palmerston North City.

This is no change to the present arrangements.

The Council is satisfied the city does not include any communities that are sufficiently distinct or isolated that require representation of this nature.

SUBMISSIONS CLOSE ON MONDAY 8 OCTOBER 2018

FURTHER INFORMATION

A copy of the Council's resolutions relating to its initial proposal, and a submission form are overleaf. The Council resolutions include the full reasons for the Council's decisions.

Further copies of these documents are available at the following locations during opening hours:

- Customer Service Centre, Palmerston North City Council, 32 The Square, Palmerston North.
- Central Library (NZ Pacific Islands Zone), 4 The Square, Palmerston North; Ashhurst, Awapuni, Linton, Mobile, Roslyn and Te Pātikitiki community libraries.
- PNCC website, pncc.govt.nz/consultations .
- Phone Council on 06 356 8199 and request a copy be posted to you.

Further information and an online submission form is on the Council's website pncc.govt.nz/consultations.

SUBMISSIONS ARE INVITED

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

A submission form is overleaf.

Submitters should also clearly state whether they wish to appear before the Council to speak to their submission.

Submissions will be heard at the Council meeting, 9am Wednesday 24 October 2018, in the Council Chamber.

Submissions must be received by the Council no later than Monday, 8 October 2018.

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WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

The Council will consider submissions received at a hearing at its ordinary meeting at 9am Wednesday 24 October 2018.

After the Council has considered the submissions, it will make a further decision on its proposal, either confirming the proposal or modifying it.

If the Council's original proposal is confirmed, people who have made submissions have an opportunity to appeal against the Council's decision.

Any person making an appeal may only raise matters that were referred to in their earlier submission.

If, however, the Council's decision is modified, appeal or objection rights are extended to any interested person or organisation.

The final decision on any appeals and objections will be made by the Local Government Commission, which is required to announce its decision by 10 April 2019.

If necessary, the Council will hold a hearing in Palmerston North.

COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS

The following resolutions were made at a meeting of the Palmerston North City Council held at 9 am on Monday, 27 August 2018:

Resolved:

1. That Council adopts the following as its initial proposal for representation arrangements for the 2019 local government elections. This proposal is made in accordance with sections 19H and 19J the Local Electoral Act 2001 and there are no changes to existing representation arrangements:
 - a. All Councillors to be elected on a city-wide basis, that is, by the electors of the city as a whole, with no wards to be established. This is because Palmerston North City comprises a single community of interest which covers the whole city. The city is geographically compact and relatively small. There is only one major business district, suburban shopping areas are small and many people reside in one part of the city but work in another. A city-wide election will also enable all electors to participate in choosing all Councillors.

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- b. The Council to comprise the Mayor and 15 Councillors. This is because the proposed number of Councillors will enable the workload to be shared, allows for more diversity of Councillors and encourages a greater variety of ideas and suggestions.
 - c. No communities or community boards to be established in Palmerston North City. This is because the Council is satisfied that the city does not include any communities that are sufficiently distinct or isolated as to require representation of this nature.
2. That arrangements for further consultation, as outlined in the memorandum and the consultation document attached to it, be approved, and the Chief Executive be authorised to make all necessary arrangements.
3. That the Council, at its ordinary meeting to be held on 9am on Wednesday 24 October 2018, hear submissions and make decisions on the representation review arising from hearing those submissions.
4. That final approval of the Council's decisions, following the hearing of submissions, be made at the Council meeting to be held on 24 October 2018 or be made at an extraordinary meeting of the Council to be held at 9am on Monday 12 November 2018.
5. That it be noted, in accordance with *Guidelines* issued by the Local Government Commission, that the Council's decision arising from the hearing of submissions can generally be made only by those elected members who are present for the entire duration of the hearing of submissions. Elected members not present for the hearing may participate only if they have good reason for absence and take all reasonable steps to inform themselves about the oral submissions received.
6. That it be noted, in accordance with *Guidelines* issued by the Local Government Commission, that any changes made to the Council's proposal following consultation must be as a result of submissions received on the proposal.

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SUBMISSION FORM

Initial Proposal For Representation Arrangements

Preferred Title: Mr / Mrs / Miss / Ms / Other : _____

Name : _____

Organisation: (If applicable) _____

Address: _____

Phone: (Home) _____ (Work) _____

(Mobile) _____

Email: _____

Signature: _____

Please tick the box if you wish to speak to this submission before Council at a meeting to be held **9am, Wednesday 24 October 2018.**

Submissions may be lodged

- By mail, addressed to Team Leader Governance and Legal, Representation Review Submissions, Palmerston North City Council, PO Box 11034, Palmerston North 4442; or
- In person by delivery to the PNCC Customer Service Centre or
- By email to: submission@pncc.govt.nz with a subject heading entitled 'Representation Submission'; or
- Online – pncc.govt.nz/consultations

PLEASE NOTE: Submissions will not be returned, so if you want a copy please keep one. As required by the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, all submissions will be regarded as being publicly available, including their placement on the Council's website. You can request your contact details (but not your name) to be regarded as confidential by ticking the following box:

Please withhold my contact details: (but not my name).

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SUBMISSION FORM

Do you agree Councillors should be elected on a city-wide basis?

YES NO

Do you agree the Council should comprise 15 Councillors plus the Mayor?

YES NO

Do you agree no communities or community boards should be established?

YES NO

PLEASE NOTE:

- Please attach additional information if you wish.
- As stated on the front of this form, all submissions are made available to the public.

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Palmerston North City Council

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