



Response form

Changes to Māori ward and constituency processes

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Personal information you provide, including your name, email address, home location and Māori descent status, will be used to analyse submissions by location or Māori descent status and to follow up with you after submissions close.

Your name, home location, Māori descent status and the content of your submission will be published online. Your email address will not be published. It will be retained by the Department of Internal Affairs and used to send you updates about the outcome of the consultation. If you choose not to enter your email address, we'll be unable to follow up after the consultation has finished.

You have the right to ask for a copy of any personal information we hold about you, and to ask for it to be corrected if you think it is wrong. If you'd like to ask for a copy of your information, or to have it corrected, please contact us at localelections@dia.govt.nz.

About you

Name

I am submitting as

- an individual
- on behalf of an organisation

Email address if you wish to hear about the outcome of the consultation

My home city, district or region is

I identify as being of Māori descent

Changes to Māori ward and constituency processes

Issue 1 – Requirement to consider

A) Should councils be required to consider Māori wards?

- Yes, every council (the same as general wards)
- Yes, but only councils that already have Māori wards
- Yes, but only councils that don't already have Māori wards
- No (the same as the current law)

B) If yes, how often?

- Every six years (the same as general wards)
- Another frequency

C) Do you have any other comments about this issue?

Issue 2 – Timing of decisions

A) Should Māori ward decision-making continue to take place in two stages?

- Yes (the same as the current law)
- No – one stage (the same as general wards)

B) How should the time between 23 November and 1 March be filled?

- More time for councils to decide about Māori wards
- More time for councils to decide about general wards
- No changes (the same as the current law)

C) Do you have any other comments about this issue?

Issue 3 – Opportunities for public input

A) Should councils be required to engage with their community when considering Māori wards?

Yes (the same as general wards)

No, but they must have regard for iwi/hapū/whanau perspectives

No (the same as the current law)

B) If yes, what type of engagement is best?

Iwi/hapū dialogue

Targeted consultation with people of Māori descent or on the Māori electoral roll

Wider public consultation with the whole community

Council to decide on a case-by-case basis

C) If your council considered Māori wards in 2020 or 2021, what type of engagement approach was used and how effective do you think this was?

D) Do you have any other comments about this issue?

Issue 4 – Decision-making rights and role for Local Government Commission

A) What role should the Local Government Commission have in relation to Māori wards?

People can appeal a council's decision to create / not to create Māori wards, and the Local Government Commission must decide

No role and people cannot appeal a council's decision to create / not to create Māori wards (the same as the current law)

No role but people can appeal a council's decision to create / not to create Māori wards to some other entity

B) If some other entity, then who should this be?

C) Do you have any other comments about this issue?

Issue 5 – Discontinuance process and period in force

A) What should a council be required to do if it wishes to no longer have any Māori wards?

The council should be able to decide this on its own (the same as the current law)

The council must consult with its community (the same as general wards)

B) How long should council decisions to create Māori wards stay in place?

Until the council decides otherwise, but at least 2 elections

(the same as the current law)

Until the council decides otherwise, but at least 1 election and must be reviewed after 2 elections (the same as general wards)

1 election only

2 elections only

C) Do you have any other comments about this issue?

Issue 6 – Types of polls

A) Should councils retain the ability to initiate binding polls on general wards?

Yes (the same as the current law)

No (the same as Māori wards)

B) Do you have any other comments about this issue?

Further comments

Do you have any further comments you would like to share about how the Māori wards process and general wards process can be brought closer together?