

REPRESENTATION REVIEW 2024



Have your
SAY!

Have your say on how Council is
elected and how you are represented
in the 2024 Clutha District
Representation Review

CONSULTATION
DOCUMENT
INITIAL PROPOSAL



Clutha District Council
www.cluthadc.govt.nz

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This booklet contains information about the Initial Proposal (on pages 6 to 16), and a separate form for you to give us your feedback.

To have your say online please visit our website.

Let us know what you think, visit our website and have your say.

www.cluthadc.govt.nz/representation-review



SCAN ME

What is the Representation Review?

Representation reviews give the community an opportunity to consider whether the existing representation arrangements are fair and effective.

We are required under the Local Electoral Act 2001 to review the arrangements for the Clutha District every six years, and the last time we did this was 2018.

We held a round of early consultation in May 2024, and Council has considered the feedback received. We are now required to develop an initial proposal which sets out our preference for representation arrangements.

The full details of the Initial Proposal are set out on pages 6 to 16 of this booklet, and we need you to let us know whether you think the proposal will provide fair and effective representation for the Clutha District, now and in the future.

The Representation Review involves a review of:

- The total number of councillors for the district and the way they are elected ('at large', by ward, or a combination).
- Ward boundaries and their names.
- Whether there should be community boards in the district and, if so, the number of community boards, their names and boundaries, the number of members for each board (including any appointed members), and whether the board area should be subdivided for electoral purposes.

**Have your
SAY!**

**Consultation closes
2 September 2024**

The easiest way to give your feedback is online:
www.cluthadc.govt.nz/representation-review

Scan the QR code to go straight to our website.



What do we have now?

In the Clutha District, our current arrangements are the mayor elected 'at large', 14 councillors elected from eight wards and 12 community board members elected from two community boards.

Our 14 councillors are elected by ward, and the mayor elected to represent the entire district.

Our 8 wards are named Balclutha, Bruce, Catlins, Clinton, Clutha Valley, Kaitangata-Matau and Lawrence-Tuaapeka and West Otago.

The number of councillors representing each ward is shown below.

Our two community boards are the West Otago Community Board and the Lawrence-Tuaapeka Community Board.

The number of elected members for each community board is shown overleaf.

COUNCILLORS

Number of Councillors representing each ward

4 Balclutha Ward

3 Bruce Ward

1 Catlins Ward

1 Clinton Ward

1 Clutha Valley Ward

1 Kaitangata-Matau Ward

1 Lawrence-Tuaapeka Ward

2 West Otago Ward

See more information about the representation for each ward overleaf.



You can view our ward maps online, scan the QR code to see more.

REPRESENTATION REVIEW 2024 | INITIAL PROPOSAL



What do we have now? (continued)

The table below shows how many councillors represent each ward within our district, as well as a breakdown of ratio to population per councillor.

Ward	Population	Councillors	Population/ Councillor ratio	Difference from quota	% Difference from quota
Balclutha Ward	5,220	4	1305	-44	-3.28%
Bruce Ward	4,720	3	1573	224	16.60%
Catlins Ward	1,400	1	1,400	51	3.76%
Clinton Ward	1,350	1	1,350	1	0.05%
Clutha Valley Ward	1,400	1	1,400	51	3.76%
Kaitangata-Matau Ward	1,170	1	1,170	-179	-13.29%
Lawrence-Tuapeka Ward	1,230	1	1,230	-119	-8.84%
West Otago Ward	2,400	2	1,200	-149	-11.06%
Total	18,890	14	1,349*		

* In accordance with the Local Electoral Act 2001, the population that each councillor represents must be within the range of 1,349 plus or minus 10% (1,214-1484). Bruce Ward, West Otago Ward and Kaitangata-Matau Ward do not comply with this requirement.

COMMUNITY BOARDS

Our two community boards, the West Otago Community Board and the Lawrence-Tuapeka Community Board, are each represented by 6 members.

Number of elected members representing each Community Board

6 Lawrence-Tuapeka Community Board

6 West Otago Community Board

Community Board	Population	Members
Lawrence-Tuapeka Community Board	1,230	6
West Otago Community Board	2,400	6

Read more about the
current arrangements
on our website

Scan the QR code or visit
www.cluthadc.govt.nz/representation-review



The Initial Proposal

WHAT ARE WE PROPOSING TO CHANGE?

As part of the representation review process, we are required by the Local Electoral Act 2001 to adopt an Initial Proposal which sets out the representation arrangements.

These will be the arrangements of the Clutha District Council for at least the 2025 triennial election.

On 26 July 2024 the Clutha District Council adopted the following Initial Proposal, and we are now seeking your feedback.

COUNCIL REPRESENTATION

It is proposed that the Clutha District Council will comprise of the mayor elected 'at-large' and nine councillors elected from eight wards. The eight wards reflect the following identified communities of interest:

Ward	Communities of interest
Balclutha Ward	Comprising the urban area of Balclutha township.
Bruce-Waiholā Ward	Comprising rural areas north of Milton township, including Taieri Mouth, Waiholā, and Milburn.
Catlins Ward	Comprising the area from the southern Koau branch of the Clutha River Mata-Au, and including the rural areas of Paretai, Otanomomo and Romahapa, through to the southern coastline to the Otago and Southland regional border, and the Awatea and Slopedown areas.
Clinton-Clydevale Ward	Comprising the inland rural area around Clinton (noting the addition to the existing Clinton Ward of Te Houka, Clifton, Clydevale and Rongahere, along with the Waipahi area along the northern boundary.
Kaitangata-Matau Ward	Comprising the urban areas of Kaitangata, and including the urban and rural areas of Stirling, Benhar, Lovells Flat, Moneymore, Toko Mouth (from Koau Branch of the Clutha River on Inch Clutha).
Lawrence-Tuapeka Ward	Comprising the urban area of Lawrence, and rural areas to include the south and southwest areas of Pukeawa, Hillend, Awamangu, Adams Flat and Crichton.
Milton Ward	Comprising the urban area of Milton township.
West Otago Ward	Comprising the key areas around West Otago, including Tapanui and Heriot (noting some areas have been moved south into the Clinton-Clydevale Ward).

Continued overleaf..

COUNCIL REPRESENTATION (CONTINUED)

The population that each councillor will represent is as follows:

Ward	Population	Councillors	Population/ Councillor ratio	Difference from quota	% Difference from quota
Balclutha	4,280	2	2,140	41	1.96%
Bruce-Waihola	1,990	1	1,990	-109	-5.19%
Catlins	1,910	1	1,910	-189	-9.00%
Clinton-Clydevale	2,150	1	2,150	51	2.44%
Kaitangata-Matau	2,140	1	2,140	41	1.96%
Lawrence-Tuapeka	1,990	1	1,990	-109	-5.19%
Milton	2,170	1	2,170	71	3.39%
West Otago	2,260	1	2,260	161	7.68%
Total	18,890	9	2,099*		

*In accordance with section 19V(2) of the Local Electoral Act 2001, the population that each councillor represents must be within the range of 2,099 plus or minus 10% (1,889-2,309). All of the proposed wards comply with this range.

WHAT ARE THE CHANGES AND WHY?

There are **significant changes proposed** to the current arrangements ('the status quo') in this Initial Proposal. We think what we are proposing is necessary to ensure representation continues to be fair and effective.

Change

1

Number of councillors and ward boundary changes (page 8-9)

We are proposing to make changes to the ward boundaries within our district, based on 8 identified communities of interest.

We are also proposing to reduce the number of councillors that make up the Clutha District Council.

Change

2

Ward name changes (page 10-11)

We are proposing to change the names of some of our wards, to reflect the adjusted boundaries and communities of interest.

Change

3

Community board boundaries to be retained (page 12)

We are proposing to retain the existing boundaries for our two community boards, even though changes to the existing ward boundaries are being proposed.

Read more about each proposed change in more detail overleaf

Change

1

NUMBER OF COUNCILLORS AND BOUNDARIES OF WARDS

There are significant changes to the status quo proposed. In this section we are focusing on proposed changes to the boundaries of wards, and the number of councillors representing each ward.

We think what we are proposing is necessary to ensure representation continues to be fair and effective.

We are proposing that the number of councillors is reduced from 14 to 8.

When discussing the proposed changes, councillors reflected on their effectiveness with a large number of elected members around the governance table and determined

that fewer councillors may enable more effective and robust discussions.

The map of all wards on the next page highlights the changes by showing new and existing boundaries, and the proposed number of councillors per ward.

We have created a variety of maps that outline the proposed boundary changes in closer detail.

You can view paper copies of these maps by visiting your local community library, the Rosebank Council office, or the Clutha isite Visitor Information Centre.

Visit our website to see our collection of maps outlining the boundary changes



Scan the QR code or visit www.cluthadc.govt.nz/representation-review

REPRESENTATION REVIEW 2024 | INITIAL PROPOSAL

Proposed number of Councillors to represent each ward

2	Balclutha Ward
1	Bruce-Waihola Ward
1	Catlins Ward
1	Clinton-Clydevale Ward
1	Kaitangata-Matau Ward
1	Lawrence-Tuapeka Ward
1	Milton Ward
1	West Otago Ward

What do you think about these changes? Head to our website and submit your feedback

Continued overleaf.

NUMBER OF COUNCILLORS AND BOUNDARIES OF WARDS (CONTINUED)

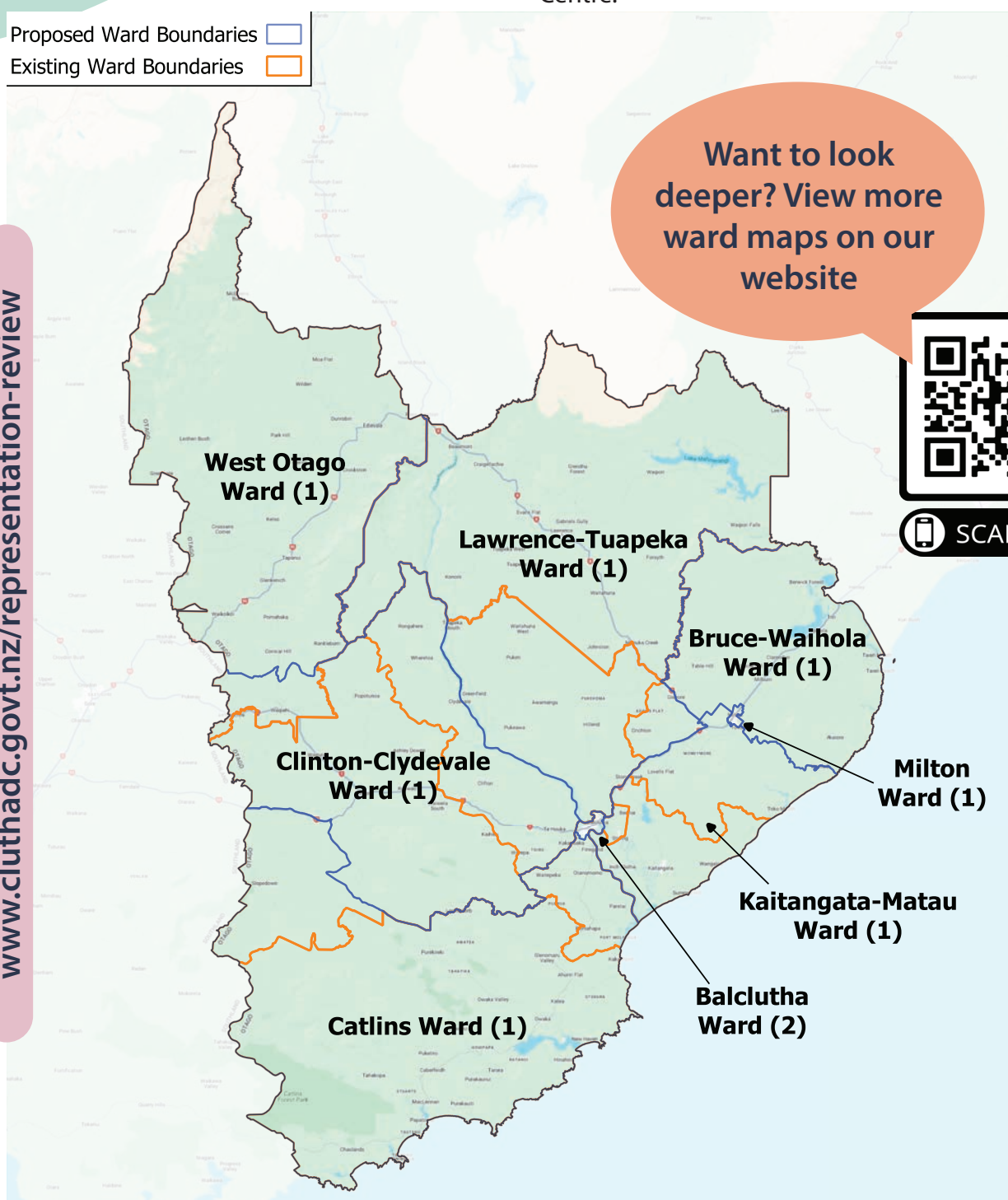
The reason for the boundary changes is to reduce the number of councillors to ensure effective representation of communities of interest in both urban and rural areas, and to ensure fair representation is provided to our communities.

Please refer to the map below, to compare the proposed ward boundaries (blue) to the existing ward boundaries (orange).

Detailed maps of each ward are also available to view at our website, or at your local community library, the Rosebank Council office or the Clutha isite Visitor Information Centre.

Proposed Ward Boundaries 
Existing Ward Boundaries 

www.cluthadcc.govt.nz/representation-review



NAMES OF WARDS

To reflect the changes in the ward boundaries, we are proposing name changes to some of our wards.

The names of these wards have been changed or altered to reflect the proposed boundary changes and to align with the geographical areas and communities of interest both rurally and urban.

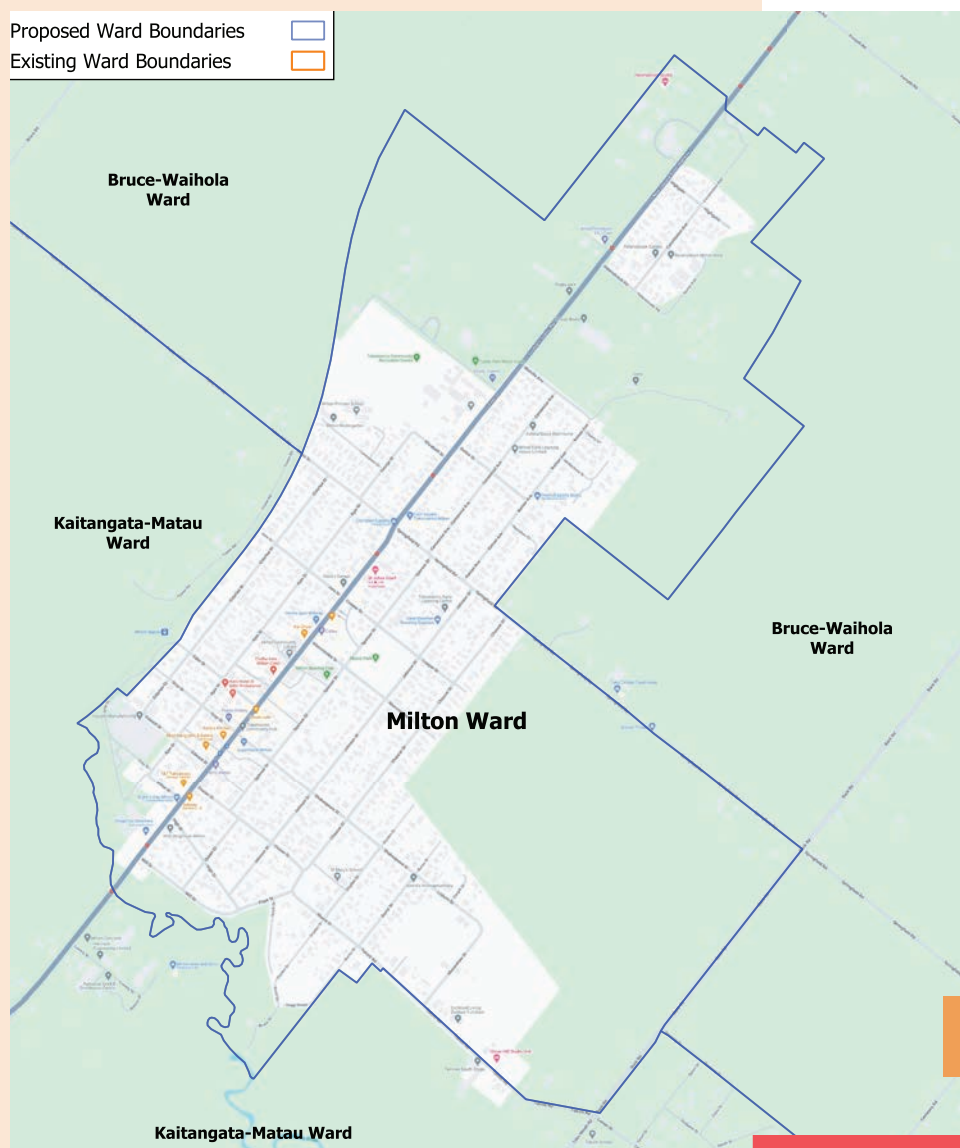
Refer to the following maps to see the boundaries for these wards.

We think that the following three proposed wards names are logical and easy to understand, as they will better reflect the geographical areas within the district.

Milton Ward (below)

Bruce-Waiholā Ward (overleaf)

Clinton-Clydevale Ward (overleaf)



These maps and other proposed ward boundary maps are available for viewing on our website.



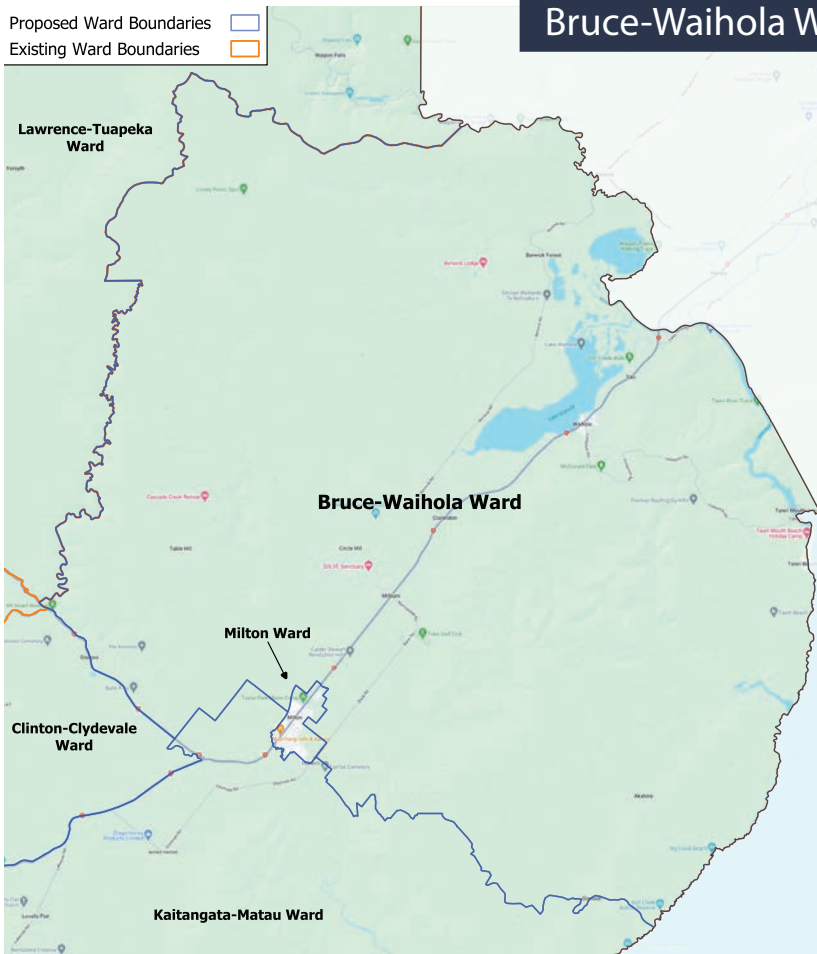
Continued overleaf..

Milton Ward

NAMES OF WARDS (CONTINUED)

Proposed Ward Boundaries 
Existing Ward Boundaries 

Bruce-Waiholā Ward



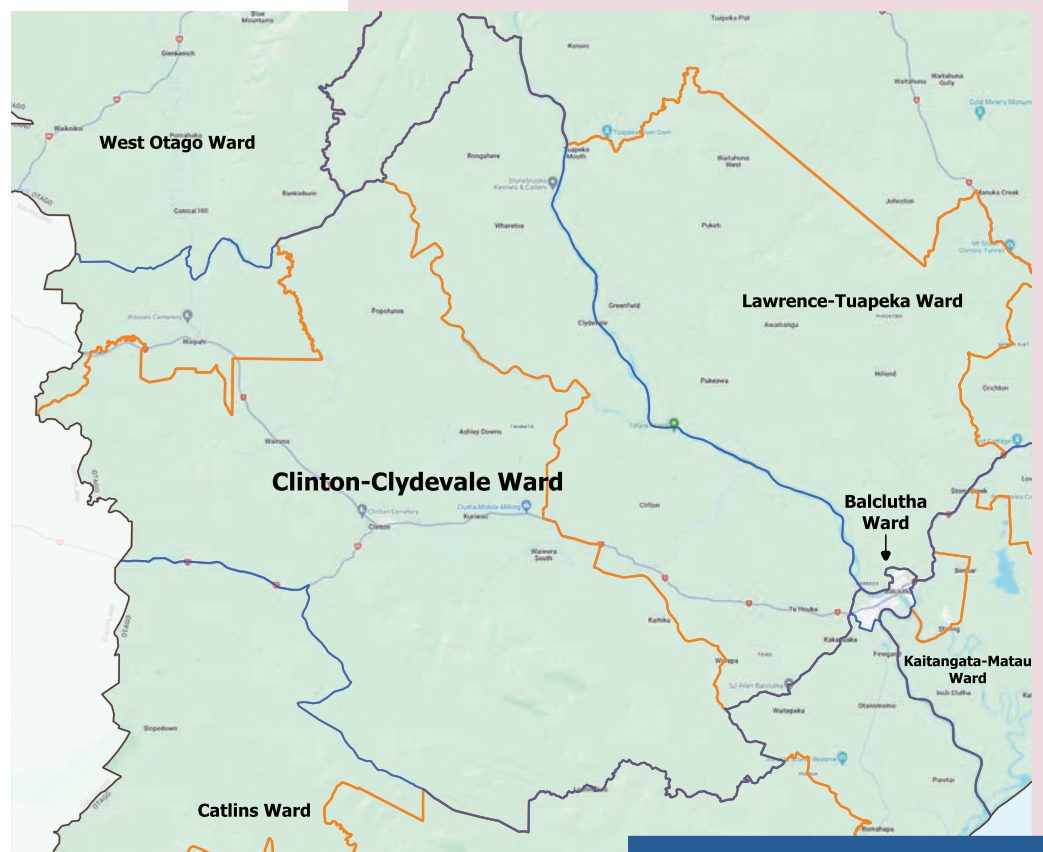
Visit our website to read more.

www.cluthadc.govt.nz/representation-review



Want to look closer?
We have created a variety of maps that outline the proposed boundary changes in closer detail.

You can view paper copies of these maps by visiting your local community library, the Rosebank Council office, or the Clutha iSite Visitor Information Centre.



Clinton-Clydevale Ward

Change

3

COMMUNITY BOARD REPRESENTATION

Although the ward boundaries are changing, we are proposing to keep the current boundaries of our two community boards the same.

Currently the Clutha District is comprised of two community boards, and we propose that this does not change.

COMMUNITY BOARDS

Community Board	Elected members	Appointed member of Council	Area of community
West Otago Community Board	6	1 appointed from West Otago Ward	Comprising the existing West Otago ward area as delineated on Plan LG-0722013-W-1 deposited with the Local Government Commission.
Lawrence-Tuapeka Community Board	6	1 appointed from Lawrence-Tuapeka Ward	Comprising the existing Lawrence-Tuapeka ward area as delineated on Plan LG072-2019-W-2 deposited with the Local Government Commission.

The boundaries of the community boards are proposed to remain (status quo) under the existing ward boundaries.

The reason for retaining the existing communities and their boundaries is to

ensure that the communities of interest in West Otago and Lawrence-Tuapeka continue to be effectively represented by their respective community boards.

Maps of these two community board boundaries, with a comparison to the proposed ward boundaries, can be viewed on [page 16](#) of this booklet.

You can also read more and view maps on our website.

Scan the QR code or visit
www.cluthadc.govt.nz/representation-review



BOUNDARY MAPS

We have prepared maps which reflect the proposed ward boundaries in this Initial Proposal.

Some maps are shown on previous pages of this Consultation Document, and the remainder are shown here. The list below reflects which page to refer to for each ward map.

Maps are also available for viewing at a larger scale on our website.

Combined ward map	page 9	Kaitangata-Matau Ward map	page 14
Balclutha Ward map	page 13	Lawrence-Tuapeka Ward map	page 15
Bruce-Waihola Ward map	page 11	Milton Ward map	page 10
Catlins Ward map	page 14	West Otago Ward	page 15
Clinton-Clydevale Ward map	page 11	Community Board maps (x2)	page 16



BOUNDARY MAPS (CONTINUED)



Continued overleaf..

BOUNDARY MAPS (CONTINUED)

Proposed Ward Boundaries 
Existing Ward Boundaries 

Lawrence-Tuapeka Ward

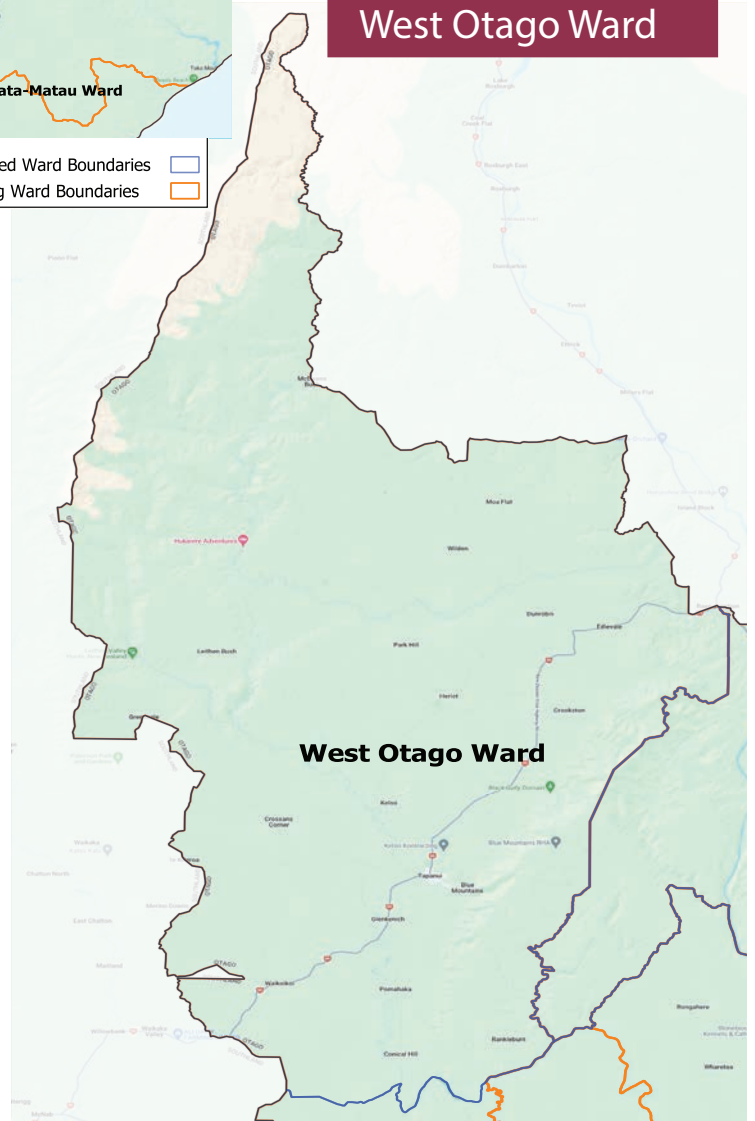


Want to look closer?
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You can view paper copies of these maps by visiting your local community library, the Rosebank Council office, or the Clutha iSite Visitor Information Centre.

West Otago Ward

Proposed Ward Boundaries 
Existing Ward Boundaries 



View these maps on our website

Scan the QR code or visit:
www.cluthadc.govt.nz/representation-review



Continued overleaf..

BOUNDARY MAPS (CONTINUED)

COMMUNITY BOARD MAPS

Proposed/Existing Community Board Boundaries



Proposed Ward Boundaries



Lawrence-Tuapeka Community Board

These maps and other proposed ward boundary maps are available for viewing on our website.



Proposed/Existing Community Board Boundaries



Proposed Ward Boundaries



West Otago Community Board

Early Feedback - Preliminary consultation

We received 58 responses from the community during the early consultation period, when we asked for your thoughts on representation arrangements in the district.

Below is a summary of the general feedback we received.

93%

93% agreed that the current wards which are based on communities of interest, reflecting geographical areas and population figures are working well.

89%

89% thought the 14 (status quo) is the right number of councillors to reflect the interests of the different communities in the district.



89% thought councillors should be elected from wards.
11% thought a combination of both wards and at large.
Nobody thought councillors should be elected at large.

There were a mixture of comments (26) and views as to why, including:

- Councillors know their own wards individual needs, local issues
- Different needs across different communities
- People need to have suitable skills
- Fair representation through a combination of wards and at large.



83% thought that community boards should be kept the same, with the existing Lawrence-Tuapeka Community Board and the West Otago Community Boards.
13% thought there should be more community boards.
4% thought there should be less.



4 comments suggested 4 key areas for where more community boards should be established, including:

- Bruce/Milton/Waihola – 4 comments
- Catlins – 2 comments
- Kaitangata – 1 comment
- Clinton - 1 comment

The Representation Review process

The Local Electoral Act 2001 (LEA) requires local authorities to undertake a review of their representation arrangements at least once every six years.

The last review was undertaken in 2018, and therefore Council is required to undertake a review in 2024 for at least the 2025 triennial elections.

This Initial Proposal presents the proposed arrangements for at least the next three years.

On Thursday 12 September 2024, submitters will have the opportunity to present their views in support of their written submission to Council in person at the hearing.

Councillors will consider these verbal submissions, along with the feedback received from the written submissions to decide a Final Proposal.

The Final Proposal is then advertised for appeals and objections. Where there are no appeals or objections, the proposal will then apply until the next representation review.

If the Final Proposal receives objections or appeals, these will be referred to the Local Government Commission, and a final determination will be made.

The easiest way to give your feedback is online at our website.

www.cluthadc.govt.nz/representation-review

Scan the QR code to go straight there.



REPRESENTATION REVIEW TIMELINE

Public submissions

1 August - 5pm, 2 September 2024

Submission period on the Initial Proposal, where you can have your say.

Hearings

12 September 2024

Hearing for submitters to speak to Council

Council adopts the Final Proposal

24 October 2024

Council meeting to adopt the Final Proposal.

Appeal/objection period

28 October – 5pm, 28 November 2024

One month for the appeal/objection period

LGC determination (if required)

By 10 April 2025

If required, a determination by Local Government Commission.

WHAT DO WE NEED TO CONSIDER?

The objective of a representation review is to ensure fair and effective representation for individuals and communities.

THE THREE PRINCIPLES OF THE REVIEW ARE:

Defining
communities of
interest

Effective
representation
of communities
of interest

Fair
representation
of electors

WHEN REVIEWING OUR REPRESENTATION ARRANGEMENTS WE IDENTIFY:

- ✓ The total number of elected members for our district,
- ✓ Their basis of election, whether 'at large', by ward, or a combination of both,
- ✓ How many wards in the district, ward names and their boundaries, and how many councillors are elected from each ward, and
- ✓ Whether there should be community boards and, if so, how the community boards are structured, their boundaries and names, and whether they are subdivided for electoral purposes.

More on the review
process over the page,
or on our website



Scan the QR code or visit
www.cluthadc.govt.nz/representation-review

WHAT DO WE NEED TO CONSIDER? (CONTINUED)

Defining communities of interest

To achieve effective representation, wards should be based on communities of interest - that means areas that people identify with and relate to.

The legislation doesn't define what a community of interest is, but describes a concept that includes:

- ✓ people feeling a sense of identity and belonging to an area and influenced by geographic features;
- ✓ people having access to the same goods, services and facilities, like schools, swimming pools or roading networks;
- ✓ rohe or takiwa of local iwi and hapu may also be a factor.

Once the communities of interest have been defined by geographical boundaries, how these communities will be most effectively represented must be considered.

Effective representation considers factors like the number of councillors in relation to the size and geography of the area, and the diversity of its people.

- ✓ Can communities of interest be grouped together to achieve effective representation?
- ✓ How many councillors would provide effective representation to a ward, and should there also be a community board?
- ✓ How easily accessible are the councillors to their community, and how well can they represent the people and interests of the area?
- ✓ Is effective representation best achieved by an at large system, a ward system, or a mixed system?

Effective representation of communities of interest

Fair representation of electors

When reviewing our representation, we have to take into account the number of residents each councillor represents. This is called a 'population-member ratio' or the '+/- 10% rule'. This rule helps us to consider whether our proposed representation arrangements provide for fair representation.

To calculate this, we take the total district population and divide it by the number of councillors (excluding the mayor). The number of councillors per ward cannot be 10% higher or lower than this ratio.



The process so far..

Council has reached this stage in the Representation Review process by taking the following steps:

Council meeting
3 August 2023

Council resolved to retain the First Past the Post (FPP) electoral system for the 2025 local election.

Council meeting
26 October 2023

Council resolved not to establish one or more Māori wards.

Council meeting
7 December 2023

Council discussed the representation review and gave consideration to the review process.

Council
workshop #1
11 April 2024

Direction was given on the proposed options, the method of consultation and questions for the preliminary consultation process.

Council meeting
9 May 2024

The early feedback preliminary consultation document and feedback questions were approved by Council.

Early feedback
10 May to 2 June
2024

The early feedback period opened and we asked for your feedback on the way Council is elected and how you would like to be represented.

Council
workshop #2
20 June 2024

Council considered the feedback received from the preliminary consultation. This was used to inform the preferred option for the initial proposal.

Frequently asked questions

Looking for more information? Check out our FAQ's below.

? What's changed?

There are significant changes to all of our representation arrangements. Changes include:

- Reducing councillors from the current 14 to 9, elected from eight wards.
- Most ward boundaries have changed.

There are also a couple of new names to represent the areas of interest, including:

- Milton Ward
- Bruce-Waiholā Ward
- Clinton – Clydevale Ward

? Why are there changes?

The opportunity for reviewing the representation arrangements is at least once every six years. Community feedback, non-compliance (not meeting the fair representation rule) of current wards, and the direction proposed by elected members provided the basis for the different options that were explored. The new proposed option addresses these areas to ensure we are meeting the legal requirements set out in the Local Electoral Act 2001.

? What other options were considered?

Other options explored by councillors included a combination of district-wide 'at-large' and ward scenarios, and ward-only scenarios.

? What is a community board?

Community boards typically represent a smaller geographic area or 'community of interest' within their council, to ensure smaller communities' voices aren't lost in the big picture conversations.

Most members are elected during local body elections although council members can also be appointed to a community board. Note: this would entail an extra cost as currently each ward's ratepayers pay for their own community board.

? Will it be cheaper to have less councillors?

No, the pool of remuneration (cost) stays the same regardless of the number of councillors. The Remuneration Authority sets this budget for the district.

? What electoral system does Clutha District Council use?

Council resolved to use the First Past the Post electoral system for the 2025 elections on 3 August 2023.

? Do we have Māori wards?

Council gave consideration to establishing a separate Māori ward, however, in consultation it was resolved not to establish one on 26 October 2023.

? What is fair and effective representation?

Fair representation means each councillor represents about the same number of people (within +/- 10 percent of the district's population divided by the total number of councillors). This ensures an equal representation across the district.

Effective representation relates to the councillors' ability to represent their constituency and ensure matters important to their electorate are heard.

? What is an election 'at large'?

An election that is 'at-large' means that members are elected from the whole district and not on a ward basis. The mayor is elected 'at-large'.

? What are communities of interest?

When looking at boundaries for local representation, we are required to consider communities of interest. These consider:

- A sense of belonging to an area.
- An ability to meet the community requirements for services.
- An ability politically to represent the interests of the community.

Ready to have your say? Find out how over the page, or head to our website.



Scan the QR code or visit www.cluthadc.govt.nz/representation-review

Have your SAY!

THE EASIEST WAY TO HAVE
YOUR SAY IS ONLINE!



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our website to submit
your feedback.

WWW.CLUTHADC.GOV.T.NZ/REPRESENTATION-REVIEW

Further information

Copies of this Representation Review Initial Proposal consultation document, maps showing areas of the proposed wards, community board boundaries and all other information about the representation review process can be found on our website.

WWW.CLUTHADC.GOV.T.NZ/REPRESENTATION-REVIEW

In person: Hardcopy versions of of this consultation document, maps showing areas of the proposed ward boundaries and hardcopy submission feedback forms can be found at our Clutha District Council offices and community libraries. Call into any of the following locations in person and our staff can assist you:

- ✓ Clutha District Council Rosebank office, Rosebank Terrace, Balclutha
- ✓ Your local community library in Balclutha, Milton, Owaka, Tapanui or Lawrence
- ✓ Clutha isite Visitor Information Centre, Balclutha

Phone or email: Any queries should be directed to:
help.desk@cluthadc.govt.nz or phone: 0800 801 350

Have your say:

To submit your feedback on the proposed representation arrangements please complete a written submission online via our website, or obtain a hardcopy submission form from one of the above locations and return by:

Post: Clutha District Council, PO Box 25, Balclutha 9240

In person: To one of the above locations.

Email: to help.desk@cluthadc.govt.nz

You are welcome to **speak to your submission** at a hearing, please let us know when you complete your submission.

SUBMISSIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY COUNCIL NO LATER THAN 5 PM, 2 SEPTEMBER 2024.

**CONSULTATION
CLOSES 5PM,
2 SEPTEMBER 2024**



REPRESENTATION REVIEW 2024

Have your say on how Council
is elected and how you are
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District Representation Review

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