

# Proposed Electorates Counter-Objection Form

**REPRESENTATION  
COMMISSION**  
TE KŌMIHANA WHAKATAU ROHE PŌTI

## Have your say on objections to electorate boundaries and names

Objections can be viewed at [vote.nz](https://vote.nz). Between 8 and 21 May 2025 you can have your say on issues raised in objections about the proposed electorate names and boundaries for the 2026 General Election. You can also ask to present your counter-objection to the Representation Commission at a public hearing.

You can submit your counter-objection using this form or our online tool at [vote.nz](https://vote.nz).

Counter-objections must be received by **5pm, Wednesday 21 May 2025**.

Counter-objections will be published online at [vote.nz](https://vote.nz) after 21 May 2025. We'll publish the names of counter-objectors but we won't publish contact details provided on the form. If you include contact information with any supporting material this information may be published with the counter-objection.

In June 2025 the Representation Commission will hold public hearings around the country for those who would like to appear in person. We'll confirm when and where the hearings will be held after the counter-objection period has closed. If you ask to be heard we'll contact you to confirm arrangements.

## Key things to consider when making your counter-objection

Electorates must have a similar number of people to ensure equal representation. An electorate cannot vary more or less than 5% from the population quota.

The limits for the number of people in each electorate are:

	quota	+/-5%
North Island general electorates	69,875	3,494
South Island general electorates	70,037	3,502
Māori electorates	74,367	3,718

In setting the electorate boundaries consideration must be given to criteria set out in the Electoral Act. If your counter-objection relates to the proposed boundaries it should be based on these criteria:

- Existing electorate boundaries
- Communities of interest - including iwi affiliations in Māori electorates
- Infrastructure that links communities such as roads and bridges
- Topographical features such as mountains and rivers
- Projected variations in electoral populations over the next five years

The name of an electorate should be relevant to the district.

You can find out more about the boundary review at [vote.nz](https://vote.nz).

### Filling in this form

Checklist:

- ☐ fill in your name and contact details
- ☐ outline your counter-objection and any suggested solution
- ☐ attach any supporting documents

### Returning your form

Send the completed counter-objection by email or post to:

[representation.commission@elections.govt.nz](mailto:representation.commission@elections.govt.nz)

Representation Commission  
PO Box 3220  
Wellington 6140

Counter-objections sent by post must be received by the deadline. Late counter-objections cannot be considered.

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## Your details

I am making a counter-objection ☒ as an individual ☐ on behalf of an organisation

I would like to present my counter-objection to the Representation Commission in person ☒ Yes ☐ No

Title  First name  Last name

Position (if applicable)

Organisation I represent (if applicable)

If you're making a counter-objection on behalf of an organisation make sure you are authorised to represent their views. The name of the organisation will be published with the counter-objection.

## Your counter-objection

Objection number my counter-objection relates to

Write the **objection number** for the objection you want to comment on. Each objection has a unique number (e.g. N01-001) next to the name of the submitter published at [vote.nz](http://vote.nz). Complete a separate counter-objection form for each issue you want to comment on.

My counter-objection relates to ☒ a proposed boundary ☒ a proposed name

Your counter-objection and reasons. Please attach additional documents if required.

I am objecting to the proposal to form a Central-Lakes electorate and divide the present Taieri electorate between what is left of the Waitaki and Southland electorates.

Whilst the communities of the Wakatipu area, the Upper Clutha and Alexandra-Clyde do have much in common, I believe the proposals exaggerates the difference between these and the areas they are included with in the present electorates. Furthermore the proposed solution will combine areas with very little common interest.

There have been links between the Wakatipu and Southland for a long time. The area was covered by the Southland DHB, the Southland Police District and the Southland Education Board. As part of the area covered by Trustbank Southland, Community Trust South provides grants in the area. Over the years many Southlanders have retired here and others have invested in its businesses. The Te Anau basin relies heavily on tourism, very often on trips which also include Queenstown, and places like Lumsden increasingly see overseas visitors. Similarly, there are definite links between tourism in the Upper Clutha area and the Mackenzie Basin. The argument that the provision of shared services in the area would benefit from having a single MP is questionable, as is the implication that an MP will struggle to represent both tourism and agricultural interests.

The proposed solution however would lead to an outcome combining communities with very little in common, especially in the proposed Southland Heartland electorate. Having taken into account the population that would be lost

Your suggested solution. Please attach additional documents if required.

Adopt the original proposal of the Representation Commission.