

Representation Review

2017-2019

Stage two: General representation

Options for representation

12 June 2018

Representation Options

The purpose of this document is to provide initial information for elected members to consider, regarding a range of options for ward boundaries that may address different communities of interest in Hamilton.

Option 1: No wards—elected members would be voted in ‘at large’, (by the whole of the city)

Data which could support this option:

- Hamilton does not have clearly defined communities of interest
- Hamilton residents use the whole of the city in their daily lives
 - * Home to work movements (Census 2013)

Option 2: Two wards with a East/West divide (status quo)

Data which could support this option:

- The majority of Hamilton residents send their children to school on the same side of the Waikato River on which they live
 - * Schooling patterns (community survey 2018)
- The majority of people living on the west side of the River also work on the west side of the River
 - * Work patterns (community survey 2018)
- The Waikato River is a distinct geographical feature

Option 3: Two ward with a North/South divide

Data which could support this option:

- **Northern** areas of Hamilton share similar demographic characteristics (Census 2013)
 - * High proportions of European
 - * Less ethnic diversity
 - * Higher incomes
 - * Higher median ages
- **Southern** areas of Hamilton share similar demographic characteristics (census 2013)
 - * Higher levels of ethnic diversity
 - * Lower incomes
 - * Younger population
- There is a clear North/South divide when we consider where people shop relative to where they live
 - * Shopping patterns (community profile survey 2018)

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Option 4: Three wards—North, South East and South West

Data which could support this option:

- **Northern** areas of Hamilton share similar demographic characteristics (Census 2013) and movement patterns (community survey 2018)
 - * High proportions of European
 - * Less ethnic diversity
 - * Higher incomes
 - * Higher median ages
 - * People shop at The Base or Chartwell
- **South-eastern** areas of Hamilton share similar demographic characteristics (census 2013) and movement patterns (community survey 2018)
 - * Younger population
 - * High ethnic diversity
 - * Low incomes
 - * People shop at Chartwell or in the CBD
- **South-western** areas of Hamilton share similar demographic characteristics (census 2013) and movement patterns (community survey 2018)
 - * Similar age population to Hamilton average
 - * High ethnic diversity
 - * Medium levels of income
 - * People shop in the CBD

Option 5: Four wards—North East, South East, North West, South West

Data which could support this option:

- **North-eastern** areas of Hamilton share similar demographic characteristics (census 2013) and movement patterns (community survey 2018)
 - * Higher median ages
 - * Higher incomes
 - * High proportion of European and Asian
 - * Low deprivation
 - * People shop at The Base or Chartwell (community survey 2018)
 - * 63% live and school in the north-eastern quarter (community survey 2018)

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- **North-western** areas of Hamilton share similar demographic characteristics (Census 2013) and movement patterns (community survey 2018)
 - * Higher median ages
 - * Higher incomes
 - * High proportion of European, less ethnic diversity
 - * Low to medium deprivation
 - * People shop at The Base
 - * 57% live and school in the north-western quarter
- **South-eastern** areas of Hamilton share similar demographic characteristics (Census 2013) and movement patterns (community survey 2018)
 - * Lower median ages
 - * Lower incomes
 - * Lots of ethnic diversity
 - * People shop at Chartwell or CBD
 - * High levels of deprivation
 - * 92% live and school in the south-eastern quarter
- **South-western** areas of Hamilton share similar demographic characteristics (Census 2013) and movement patterns (community survey 2018)
 - * Similar ages to Hamilton average
 - * Medium incomes (similar to Hamilton average)
 - * Lots of ethnic diversity
 - * People shop in the CBD (community survey 2018)
 - * Medium to high levels of deprivation
 - * 60% live and school in the south-western quarter (community survey 2018)

Note: This option would require careful boundary alignment to ensure the ratio for fair representation (as set out in the LEA guidelines) is met. For example, the north western quarter of the city (Profile areas 1, 2 and 3) has a much smaller population than the other three quarters.

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Option 6: Mixed System—a set number of councilors are elected at large and a set number of councillors are elected by wards

Data which could support this option:

- Hamilton does not have clearly defined communities of interest
- There could be multiple ward options—the data to support these is listed in options 2-5