

Appendix 1: Evidence of Electoral Commission linking to partisan site.

Electoral commission website: <https://vote.nz/local-elections/about/local-elections-2025/>



Have your say on who represents your community by voting in the 2025 local elections.

Local elections decide who represents us on our city, district, and regional councils.

The people elected to local councils get to make decisions about our daily lives and the future of our towns and cities. They set and collect rates, oversee town planning, and provide services like rubbish collection, parks and libraries.

In some parts of New Zealand, local elections are also held for local and community boards, licensing trusts, and some other organisations.

Local councils run the local elections, and our role is limited to enrolment. For more information about the local election in your area, contact your council.

[Council websites and maps](#)  (Local Government New Zealand)

[Information for voters](#)  (votelocal.co.nz)

Māori ward polls

Some local councils that have Māori wards or constituencies will be holding polls at the 2025 local elections to ask voters whether or not they support keeping them.

[About Māori wards and constituencies](#)  (votelocal.co.nz)

Enrol to have your say

If you're on the electoral roll, you can vote in the local elections where you live.

You can enrol if you're 18 or older, a New Zealand citizen or permanent resident, and have lived in New Zealand for more than one year continuously at some time in your life.

You can enrol or update your details online, or call and ask us on 0800 36 76 56 for help.

ENROL OR UPDATE ONLINE

Electoral commission website: <https://vote.nz/local-elections/about/local-elections-2025/>

Vote Local site (not Electoral Commission): <https://www.votelocal.co.nz/maori-wards-and-constituencies/>

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EVERY VOTE HELPS SHAPE OUR FUTURE.
MAKE SURE YOU HAVE YOUR SAY.

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About Māori wards and constituencies

What is the difference between a Māori ward and a Māori constituency? The answer is straightforward:

- Regional councils can have Māori constituencies

Further down on the same page, partisan information.

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How long have Māori wards and constituencies been around?

Māori electorates were established in 1867 and are a well-established part of New Zealand's democracy. Māori wards and constituencies were brought into legislation much more recently in 2001.

Why is there debate about Māori wards and constituencies?

The discussion surrounding Māori representation has sparked differing opinions within communities. Polling residents on the establishment of Māori wards brings this issue to the forefront.

New Zealand's history reflects both the strong partnership between Māori and the Crown, as well as periods of conflict over land, language, resources, and governance.

Establishing Māori wards and constituencies provides an inclusive and democratic avenue for councils to collaborate with Māori, fostering positive relationships and ensuring decisions benefit the entire community.

Why have Māori wards and constituencies?

Māori wards and constituencies guarantee Māori representation on a local authority and contribute to Māori participation in council decision-making as required under the Local Government Act 2002.

Are Māori wards and constituencies consistent with the principle of one person, one vote?

Yes. Voters in Māori wards and constituencies receive the same number of votes as those in