



WAIMAKARIRI DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mayor and Councillors

WAIMAKARIRI DISTRICT COUNCIL

A **HEARING**, consisting of full Council, for the **2022 Representation Review Arrangements** of the Waimakariri District Council will be held as follows:

<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Venue</i>
Tuesday 12 October 2021	Commencing at 1.30pm	Waimakariri District Council Council Chambers 215 High Street, Rangiora

Sarah Nichols
GOVERNANCE MANAGER

BUSINESS

1 APOLOGIES

2 CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Conflicts of Interest (if any) to be reported for minuting.

3 HEARING OF SUBMISSION TO THE REPRESENTATION REVIEW

1:40pm Rhonda Mather

4 REPORT

2022 - 2025 Local Body Election Representation Arrangements – Sarah Nichols (Governance Manager)

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Council:

- (a) **Receives** Report No. 210930157886.
- (b) **Receives** and considers all submissions
- (c) **Notes** that 15 submissions were received during the consultation and one person will speak to their submission at the hearing.
- (d) **Notes** that the Council will consider and deliberate representation arrangements for the Local Body elections to be held in October 2022 at a Council meeting to be held on 2 November 2021.

WAIMAKARIRI DISTRICT COUNCIL

REPORT FOR INFORMATION

FILE NO and TRIM NO: GOV-03-03/210930157886

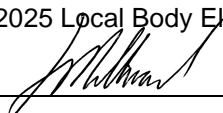
REPORT TO: COUNCIL HEARING

DATE OF MEETING: 12 October 2021


AUTHOR(S): Sarah Nichols, Governance Manager

SUBJECT: 2022 - 2025 Local Body Election Representation Arrangements

ENDORSED BY:
(for Reports to Council,
Committees or Boards)



Department Manager



Chief Executive

1. SUMMARY

- 1.1. The purpose of this report is to provide information, primarily public submissions, for the Council to consider a final proposal of the representation arrangements on 2 November 2021.
- 1.2. The Council will deliberate on the final proposal on 2 November 2021, as part of the scheduled ordinary meeting. Following decisions of that meeting the final proposal will be advertised for one month, calling for any objections. If any objections are received to the final proposal then the Local Government Commission will hear and consider the matter in early 2022, before confirming the final determination.

Attachments:

- i. Consultation documentation (Trim 210727122614)
- ii. Submissions to be heard (Trim 210930157921)
- ii. Complete public submissions (Trim 210930157911)

2. RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Council:

- (a) **Receives** Report No. 210930157886.
- (b) **Receives** and considers all submissions
- (c) **Notes** that 15 submissions were received during the consultation and one person will speak to their submission at the hearing.
- (d) **Notes** that the Council will consider and deliberate representation arrangements for the Local Body elections to be held in October 2022 at a Council meeting to be held on 2 November 2021.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1. The Local Electoral Act 2001 (LEA) sets out the requirement for local authorities to review the arrangements for Council elections at least once every six years, with the last review held by the Council in 2015 affecting the 2016 and 2019 local body elections.

- 3.2. This review has focused on the 2022 local body elections. Staff will be recommending to the incoming Council that another Representation Review occur in early 2023, ahead of the 2025 local body elections.
- 3.3. Key steps of the process followed to date have been:
- 4 August 2020 Council Report – introduced process, established Working Party
 - August 2020 Reports to Boards – introduced process, members for Working Party
 - November 2020 population statistics provided by Local Government New Zealand (LGNZ)
 - December 2020 update provided to Te Ngāi Tūāhuriri Rūnanga
 - 9 February - update to Mahi Tahi Joint Development Committee
 - 10 February 2021 – workshop with Rangiora-Ashley Community Board regarding subdivision
 - 23 February 2021 Council Report – confirmation of First Past the Post voting
 - March 2021 workshops with each Community Board, receiving views
 - 3 August 2021 Council Report – approves Special Consultative Procedure for period 12 August to 27 September 2021.
- 3.4. Based on advice from the Representation Review Working Party, community board feedback, staff advice and legislative compliance requirements as set out in the Local Electoral Act 2001 and Local Government Commission guidelines, the resolution from Council was for the Special Consultative Procedure to consult on the proposal to retain, in the majority of circumstances, the current representation arrangements.
- 3.5. Statistics from LGNZ showed that the subdivision arrangements for the Rangiora-Ashley Community Board (RACB) no longer met the threshold of fair representation of electors. The consultation included the proposal to resolve this by changing the ratio of elected members from five in the Rangiora subdivision and three in the Ashley subdivision to six and two members respectively. The alternative proposed was to remove the RACB subdivision completely and elect board members at large.
- 3.6. Through the special consultative procedure, social media was utilised and the “Bang the Table” interactive forum was accessible on the Council consultation pages. Along with newspaper adverts directing people to the website for more information, submission forms were available in hard copy at the Libraries, Service Centres and Community Centres of Pegasus and Woodend. Elected members were also encouraged to raise the awareness of this consultation. The Mayor raised awareness of the consultation through his regular radio slot with Compass FM.

4. ISSUES AND OPTIONS

- 4.1. During the Special Consultative Procedure fifteen submissions were received. One via email, and fourteen through the Let’s Talk page of the Council website. One submitter wished to speak to their submission.
- 4.2. There were approximately 2,300 visitors to the Let’s Talk landing page between the consultation period of 12 August and 27 September (the period coincided with the 3 Waters consultation). There were 136 specific views to the Representation Review consultation information.
- 4.3. All submitter’s agreed with retaining the current ward names. Fourteen of the fifteen submitters agreed with retaining the current board and subdivision names with one submitter expressing a strong preference to retaining all names. There were no suggested alternative naming.

- 4.4. Thirteen of the fifteen submitters were supportive of retaining the current boundaries. One submitter expressed preference for 'at large' elections for councillors and community boards. One submitter did not provide an answer to that question.
- 4.5. Twelve of the fifteen submitters were supportive of having ten councillors. Two submitters wanted to reduce (one for cost savings, one preferred outreach offices). One submitter wanted to increase elected members (for full representation).
- 4.6. Thirteen of the fifteen submitters agreed community boards aid representation to the Council and agreed with retaining the current four community boards. Two submitters believed they did not aid representation and disagreed with retaining them. One of those who disagreed preferred outreach offices and the other was concerned that rural people were not fairly represented and suggested a rural board for rural communities and needs.
- 4.7. Nine of the fifteen submitters agreed with the proposal to change the ratio of five elected board members in the Rangiora Subdivision and three elected board members in the Ashley subdivision to six and two members respectively. Three submitters preferred the option to elect all board members 'at large', one preferred a rural board and two did not provide a reason.
- 4.8. Summary of submitter responses provided on the next page.

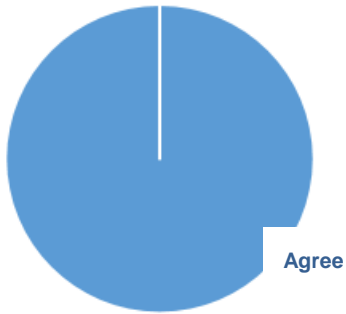
Implications for Community Wellbeing

There are implications on community wellbeing by the issues and options that are the subject matter of this report.

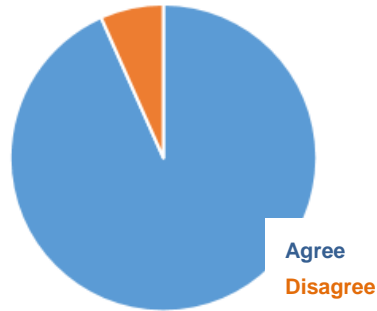
- 4.9. The Management Team has reviewed this report and support the recommendations.

SUMMARY OF SUBMITTER RESPONSES

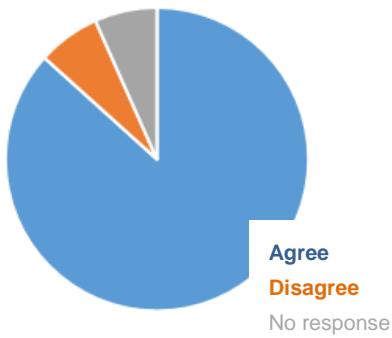
Agree with ward names



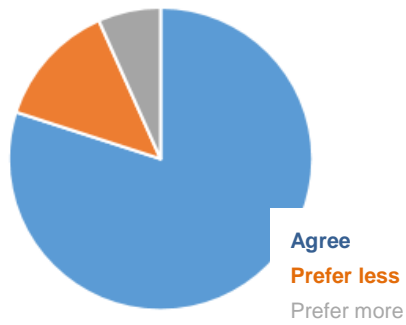
Agree with board and subdivision names



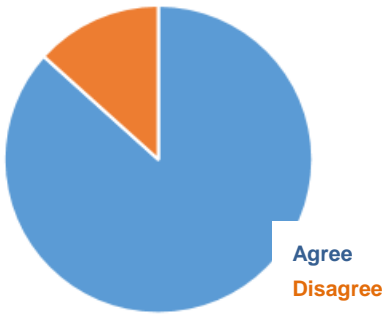
Agree with current boundaries



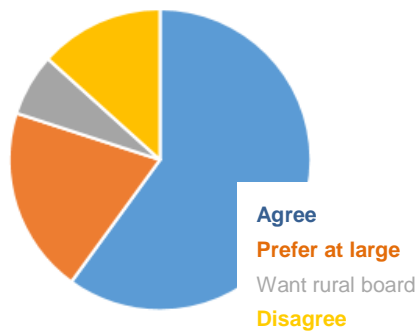
Agree with 10 councillors



Agree with retaining boards



Agree with RACB subdivision change



5. COMMUNITY VIEWS

5.1. Mana whenua

Te Ngāi Tūāhuriri hapū are likely to be affected by, or have an interest in the subject matter of this report. They have been consulted on several occasions prior to consultation and are supportive of the proposal.

5.2. Groups and Organisations

There are groups and organisations likely to be affected by, or to have an interest in the subject matter of this report, they have been provided the opportunity to have their views considered during the formal consultation

5.3. Wider Community

The wider community is likely to be affected by, or to have an interest in the subject matter of this report and were able to have their views considered during the formal consultation.

6. OTHER IMPLICATIONS AND RISK MANAGEMENT

6.1. Financial Implications

There are financial implications of the decisions sought by this report. The proposal that went to public consultation retained the current number of elected members, being 10 councillors, Mayor and 24 board members. If the proposal is adopted it is not anticipated to have an impact on Annual Plan budget provisions (as previously indicated in the LTP) with either elected member remuneration or staff servicing costs. There is appropriate budget within the Governance operational budget for advertising and administration of the Representation Review and mapping confirmation with the Department of Statistics.

6.2. Sustainability and Climate Change Impacts

The recommendations in this report do not have sustainability and/or climate change impacts.

6.3. Risk Management

There are not risks arising from the adoption/implementation of the recommendations in this report. All elements of the Council's representation proposals are subject to rights of appeal and/or objection. It is therefore important that the review process is robust and results in a defensible outcome.

6.4. Health and Safety

There are not health and safety risks arising from the adoption/implementation of the recommendations in this report.

7. CONTEXT

7.1. Consistency with Policy

This matter is a matter of significance in terms of the Council's Significance and Engagement Policy.

7.2. **Authorising Legislation**

Local Electoral Act 2001, particularly Part 1A, Section 19A-19ZI.

Local Government Act 2002; particularly:

Section 3 “the purpose of this Act is to provide for democratic and effective local government that recognises the diversity of New Zealand Communities”.

Section 14 “(1)(b) a local authority should make itself aware of, and should have regard to, the views of all of its communities; and (1)(c) when making a decision, a local authority should take account of: - (i) the diversity of the community, and the community’s interests, within its district or region; and (ii) the interests of future as well as current communities; and (iii) the likely impact of any decision on each aspect of well-being referred to in subparagraphs (i) and (ii). (1)(d) a local authority should provide opportunities for Maori to contribute to its decision-making processes”.

Section 82 and 83: The community engagement and consultation outlined in this report reflect the requirements of the Local Electoral Act 2001 and the Local Government Act 2002.

7.3. **Consistency with Community Outcomes**

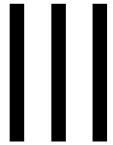
The Council’s community outcomes are relevant to the actions arising from recommendations in this report. There are wide-ranging opportunities for people to contribute to the decision making by local, regional and national organisations that affects our District.

7.4. **Authorising Delegations**

Legislative.



Freepost Authority Number 1667



Attention: Sarah Nichols
 Representation Review
 Waimakariri District Council
 Private Bag 1005
 Rangiora 7440

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Please seal on all sides with tape.

Fold along line

Contact Information

Name:

Group:

Email:

Phone:

Postal address:

Your feedback can be sent by mail, dropped into any Service Centre, emailed to **representation@wmk.govt.nz** or completed online at **waimakariri.govt.nz/letstalk**

Privacy Statement – information collected only for purposes related to Representation Review Consultation and all contact information stored securely.

I wish my private information not to be made public. (This will be viewed by the Council and staff only).

LET'S TALK ABOUT REPRESENTATION REVIEW

LET'S
TALK



WHAT DO YOU THINK?

The Council is seeking your views as we make sure Waimakariri's representation arrangements continue to meet the District's needs ahead of the October 2022 local body elections.

How will you be represented at your Council?

The role of elected members, our Mayor, Councillors and Community Board members, includes acting as a voice for the local community. We are looking for ideas and feedback on whether our arrangement for fair and effective representation meet the needs and expectations of the District.

What is the Representation Review?

To ensure councils retain effective and fair representation for the community, all territorial authorities are required under the Local Electoral Act 2001 to review their representation arrangements at least every six years. The last time this Council undertook a review was for the 2016 Local Government elections. You can learn more about Representation Reviews on the Local Government Commission website lgc.govt.nz

The Council needs to work from the most recent Census data statistics (2018) to ensure the ratio of elected members to population is balanced and fair across the District. This can be complex when considering the growth Waimakariri is experiencing and the need to ensure everyone is fairly represented.

What are 'communities of interest'?

When looking at boundaries for local representation, we are required to consider 'communities of interest'. This term can be subjective, however we generally consider three factors:

1. A sense of belonging to an area
2. An ability to meet the community requirements for services
3. An ability politically to represent the interest of the community.

What do we need to decide?

- The total number of councillors there should be for the District and the way they are elected - at 'large' or by ward.
- The boundaries of wards and their names.
- Whether there should be community boards in the District and, if so, the number of 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.

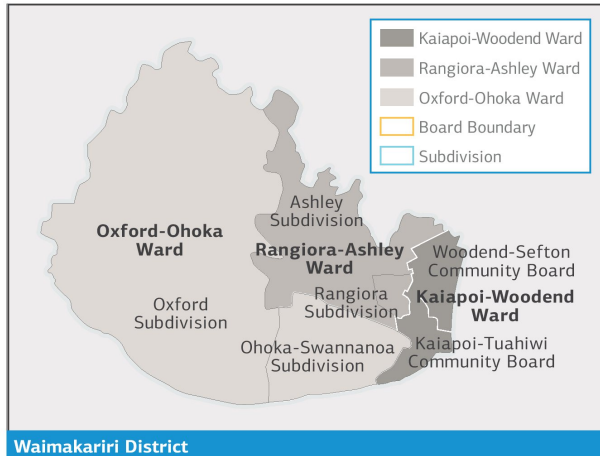
What do we need to consider when making decisions?

- What are the District's communities of interest?
- What are the best means to provide effective representation of communities of interest?
- What is fair representation of electors?

LET'S TALK ABOUT REPRESENTATION REVIEW

What representation do we have now?

This map shows the current arrangements:



- One Mayor elected from the whole of the District.
- Ten Councillors elected from three different Wards.

Ward	Number of Councillors	Population
Oxford-Ohoka Ward	2	13,050
Rangiora-Ashley Ward	4	26,700
Kaipoi-Woodend Ward	4	24,900
		64,650

- Four Community Boards.

Board	Subdivision No of members		Total members	Population
Oxford-Ohoka Community Board	Oxford 3	Ohoka 3	6	13,050
Rangiora-Ashley Community Board	Ashley 3	Rangiora 5	8	26,700
Woodend-Sefton Community Board	No subdivision		5	9,240
Kaipoi-Tuahiwi Community Board	No subdivision		5	15,650

More information about our Councillors and Community Boards can be found here: waimakariri.govt.nz/your-council/council-boards-and-committees

Will Waimakariri have a Māori Ward?

Waimakariri is one of eleven councils in New Zealand where the Māori electoral population is not sufficient to

meet the threshold for the option to establish a Māori ward. Therefore this is not applicable for the Waimakariri District October 2022 local body elections.

The Council supports Māori involvement in decision making and in 2020 the Mahi Tahī Joint Development Committee was established in partnership between Te Ngāi Tūāhuriri Rūnanga and Waimakariri District Council to further develop our working relationship and increase decision-making 'at the table'. Any changes to representation arrangements will be made in consultation with Te Ngāi Tūāhuriri Rūnanga.

What needs to change?

The members of the Rangiora-Ashley Community Board are elected from two subdivisions (or areas) that can be largely thought of as an urban subdivision and a rural subdivision. As the growth of Rangiora has exceeded that of the rural areas, changes need to be made to ensure the representation arrangements remain fair.

What is the cost of representation?

A democratic system requires financial and other resources to support its function, however cost is not an aspect that is considered for the Representation Review as that relates to democracy. The remuneration of elected members is set independently by the Remuneration Authority. Legally we must have at least six councillors, and a maximum of 30. In our District, we think the current number of 10 councillors provides fair representation to the community and adequately provides for the work involved in making decisions on your behalf.

The Process/Timeline

- Public Consultation - 12 August-27 September 2021
- Hearing of Submissions - Tues 12 October (morning)
- Council consider final proposal - Tues 2 November
- Final Proposal advertised and advised to Local Government Commission - 8 November
- Appeals to the Commission - 8 November-8 December 2021
- Local Government Commission consider any appeals - February 2022
- Local Government Commission confirm final representation arrangements for the 8 October 2022 local body elections - March 2022.

QUESTIONS

Q1. Do you agree with retaining the current Boundaries Yes No (refer to waimakariri.govt.nz/your-council/local-body-elections for more info).

Do you agree with retaining the current ward names?

Kaiapoi-Woodend Ward Yes No

Rangiora-Ashley Ward Yes No

Oxford-Ohoka Ward Yes No

Do you have alternative suggestions for ward names?

Q2. Do you believe that 10 is the right number of councillors to represent the interest of our District? Yes No

If not, what would you consider the right number of councillors to be and why?

Q3. Do you believe community boards aid representation to the Council? Yes No

If not, what could be done differently to ensure that community boards better represent you and subsequent decisions of the Council?

Do you agree with retaining the current four community boards? Yes No

If not what changes would you make and why?

Q4. Do you agree with retaining the current community board names:

Woodend-Sefton Community Board Yes No

Kaiapoi-Tuahiwi Community Board Yes No

Rangiora-Ashley Community Board Yes No

Oxford-Ohoka Community Board Yes No

To view a copy of the Local Government Commission determination 2016 visit [waimakariri.govt.nz/ data/assets/pdf_file/0016/21238/4549540DA-Blank-Document.pdf](http://waimakariri.govt.nz/data/assets/pdf_file/0016/21238/4549540DA-Blank-Document.pdf)

Q5. Do you agree with retaining the current subdivision names: Rangiora and Ashley Subdivisions Yes No
Ohoka-Swannanoa and Oxford Subdivisions Yes No

Proposal

Assuming that our current boundaries remain as they are, there are two options for ensuring that the Rangiora-Ashley Community Board subdivision continues to remain fair. Because of population ratios there is a need to change the ratio of five elected board members in the Rangiora subdivision and three elected board members in the Ashley subdivision to either:

Proposal: Six elected board members in Rangiora subdivision and two elected board members from the Ashley subdivision.

Do you support this proposed change? Yes No

Why do you/don't you support this proposed change?

Alternative: remove the subdivision and elect all board members at large (the whole ward).

Do you have any other comments regarding representation matters such as:

- ward boundaries
- community boards
- elected member numbers
- ward/board names

Following this formal consultation, which will include hearings, the Council will make a recommendation in November to the Local Government Commission, who in March/April 2022 will determine the final representation arrangements ahead of the October 2022 Local Body Elections.

Hearings will occur on the morning of Tuesday 12 October 2021 in Council Chambers, Rangiora Service Centre, 215 High Street, Rangiora.

Your written submission will be considered by the Council at the hearing.

I wish to speak at the hearing to my submission.

If you would like to comment further, please feel free to include additional pages inside the envelope if you wish.

Project Report

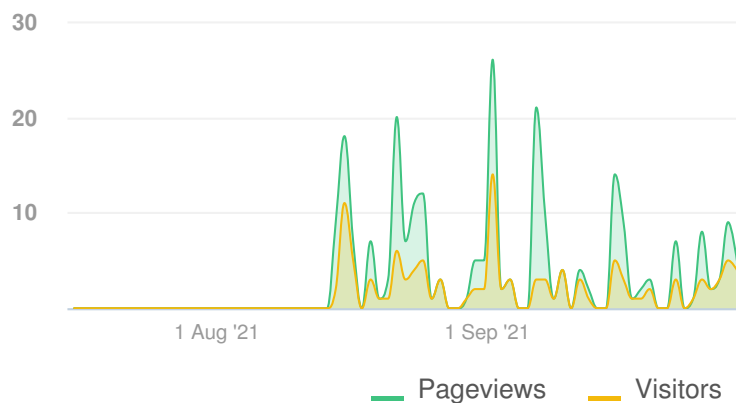
01 July 2021 - 27 September 2021

Let's Talk Waimakariri

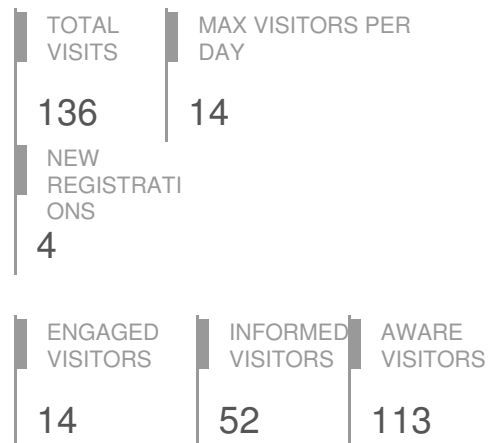
Let's Talk About Representation Review



Visitors Summary

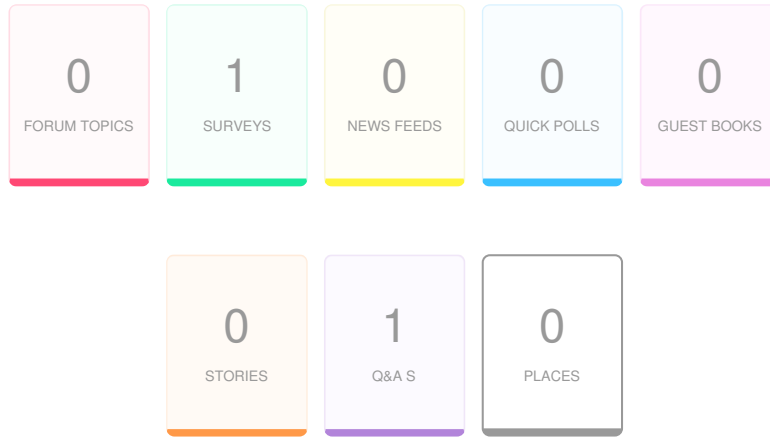


Highlights



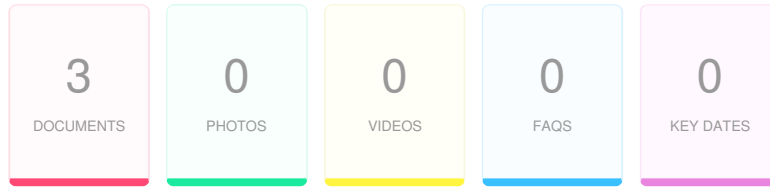
Aware Participants		Engaged Participants	
	113		14
Aware Actions Performed	Participants	Engaged Actions Performed	Registered Unverified Anonymous
Visited a Project or Tool Page	113	Contributed on Forums	0 0 0
Informed Participants	52	Participated in Surveys	14 0 0
Informed Actions Performed	Participants	Contributed to Newsfeeds	0 0 0
Viewed a video	0	Participated in Quick Polls	0 0 0
Viewed a photo	0	Posted on Guestbooks	0 0 0
Downloaded a document	7	Contributed to Stories	0 0 0
Visited the Key Dates page	0	Asked Questions	0 0 0
Visited an FAQ list Page	0	Placed Pins on Places	0 0 0
Visited Instagram Page	0	Contributed to Ideas	0 0 0
Visited Multiple Project Pages	36		
Contributed to a tool (engaged)	14		

ENGAGEMENT TOOLS SUMMARY



Tool Type	Engagement Tool Name	Tool Status	Visitors	Contributors		
				Registered	Unverified	Anonymous
Qanda	Got a question?	Published	23	0	0	0
Survey Tool	Your Feedback	Published	29	14	0	0

INFORMATION WIDGET SUMMARY



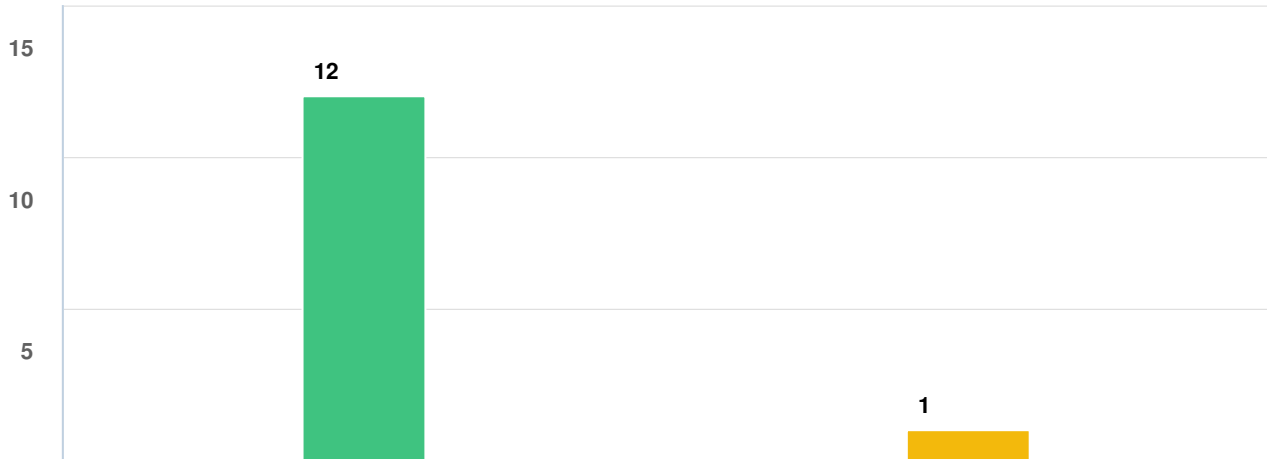
Widget Type	Engagement Tool Name	Visitors	Views/Downloads
Document	Let s Talk: Representation Review Fillable PDF	5	6
Document	Local Government Commission Determination 2016	2	4
Document	Waimakariri Local Body Elections	0	0

ENGAGEMENT TOOL: SURVEY TOOL

Your Feedback

Visitors 29	Contributors 14	CONTRIBUTIONS 14
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Do you agree with retaining the current boundaries?



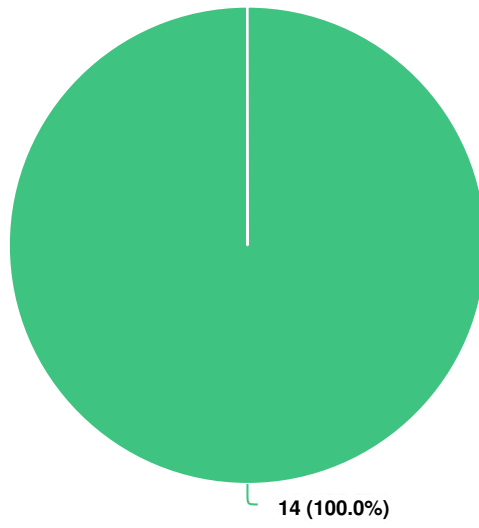
Question options

- Yes
- No

Optional question (13 response(s), 1 skipped)

Question type: Checkbox Question

Agree with Ward Name:
Kaiapoi-Woodend Ward



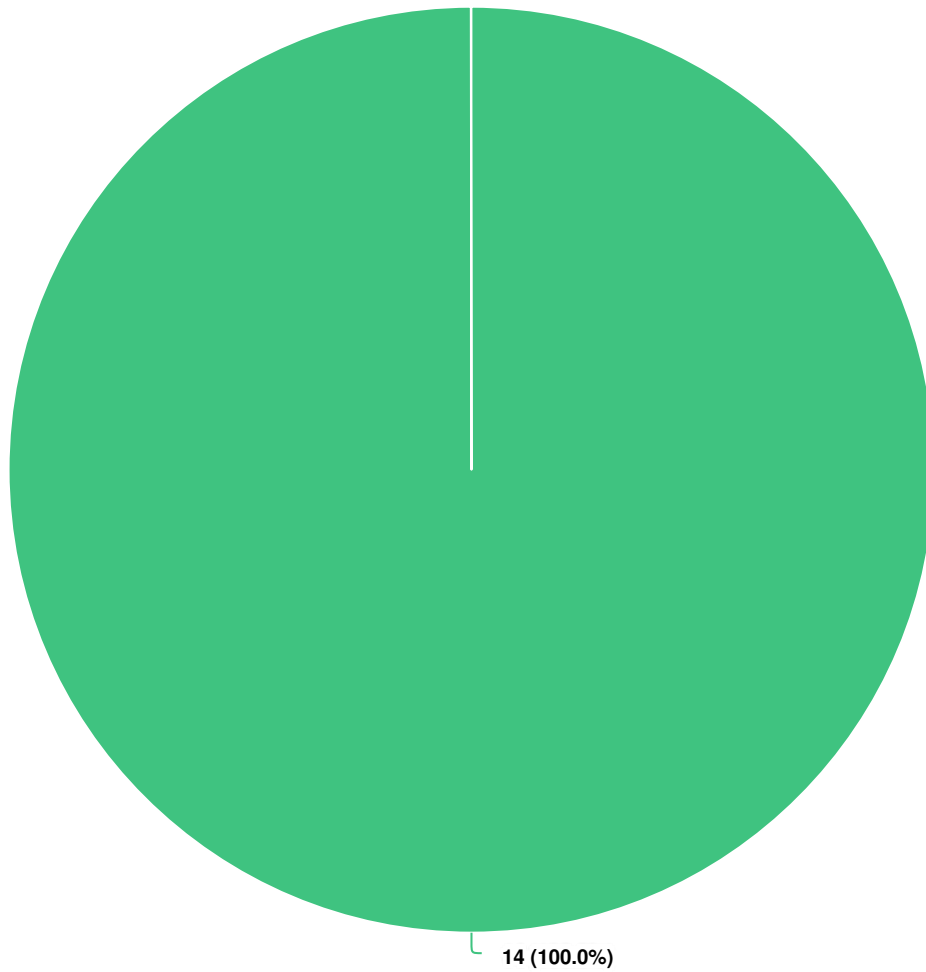
Question options

- Yes

Optional question (14 response(s), 0 skipped)

Question type: Radio Button Question

Agree with Ward Name:
Rangiora-Ashley Ward



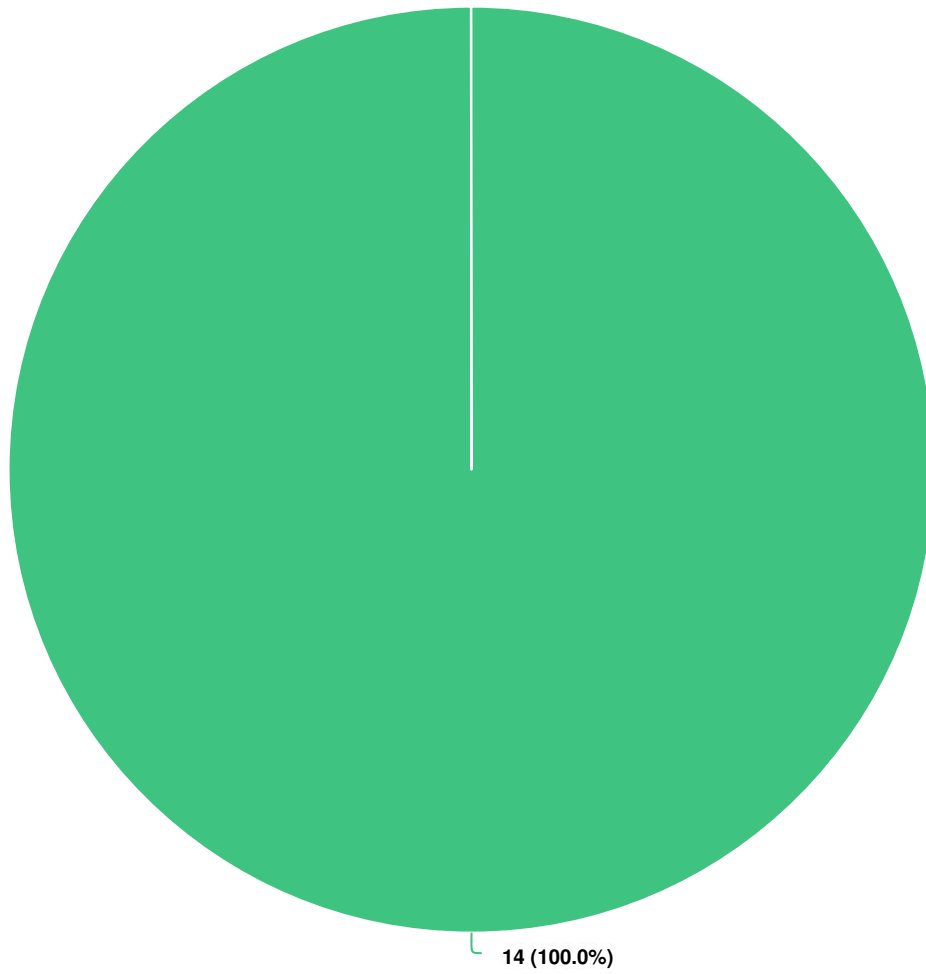
Question options

- Yes

Optional question (14 response(s), 0 skipped)

Question type: Radio Button Question

Agree with Ward Name:
Oxford-Ohoka Ward



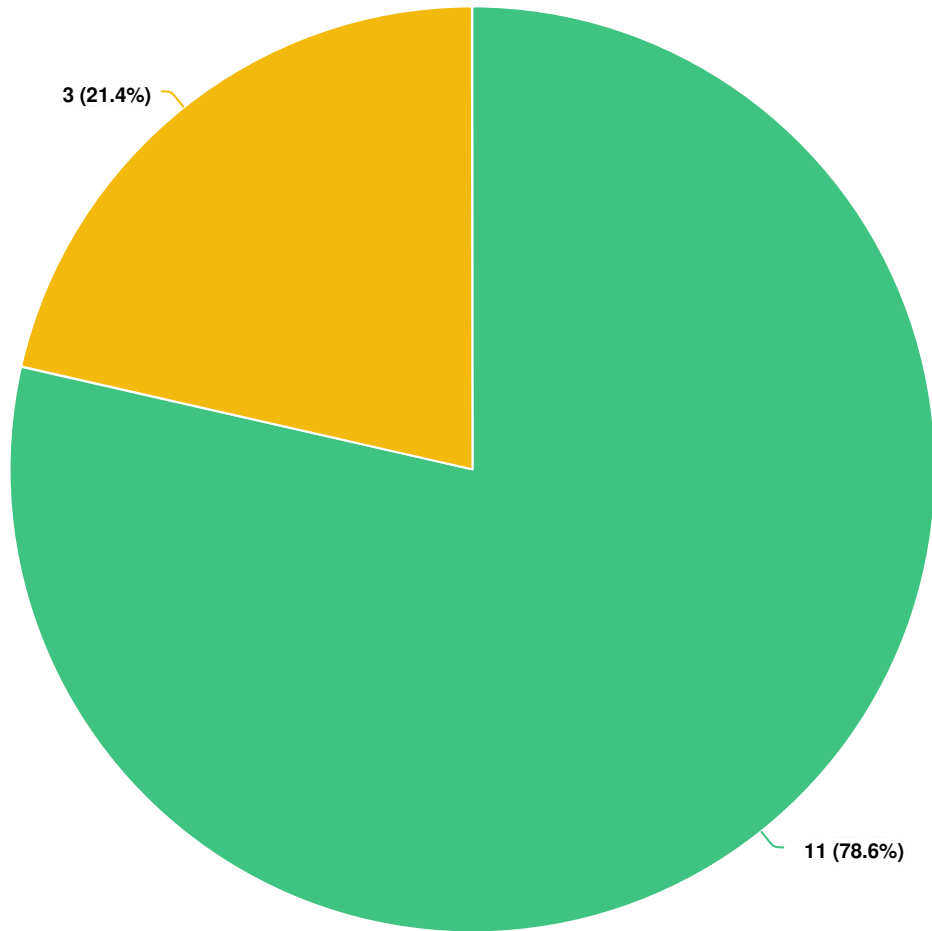
Question options

- Yes

Optional question (14 response(s), 0 skipped)

Question type: Radio Button Question

Do you believe that 10 is the right number of councillors to represent the interests of our District?



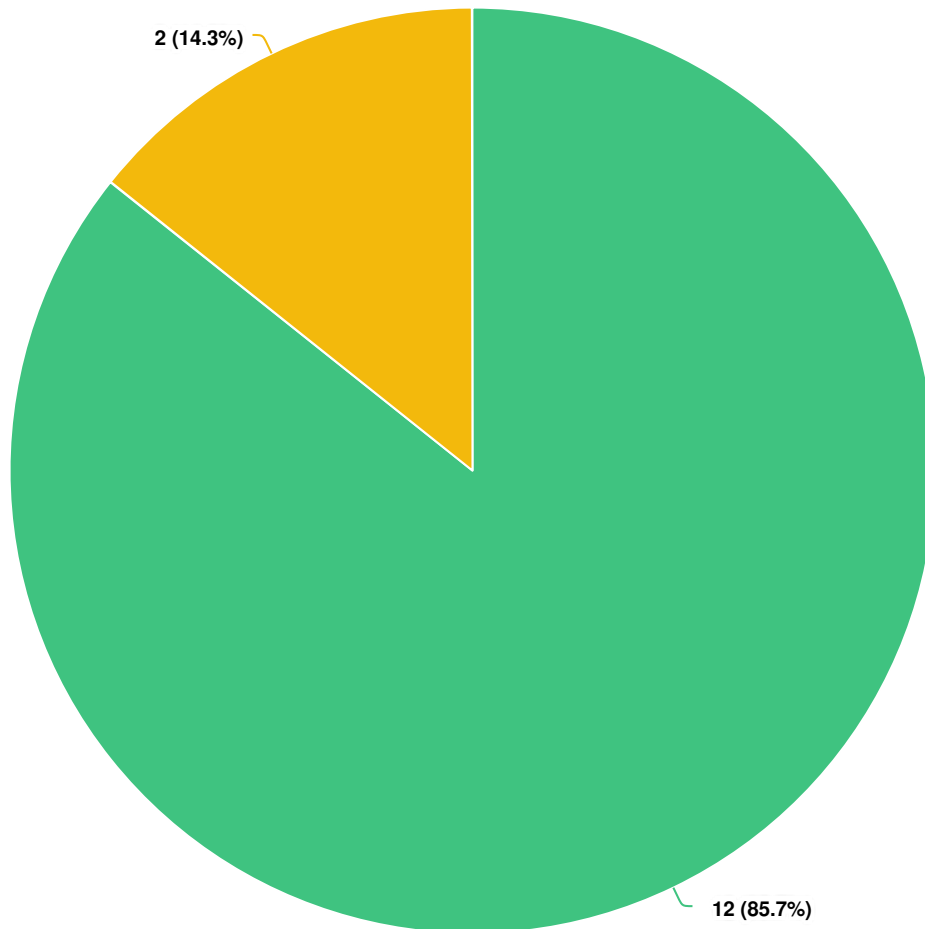
Question options

- Yes
- No

Optional question (14 response(s), 0 skipped)

Question type: Radio Button Question

Do you agree community boards aid representation to the Council?



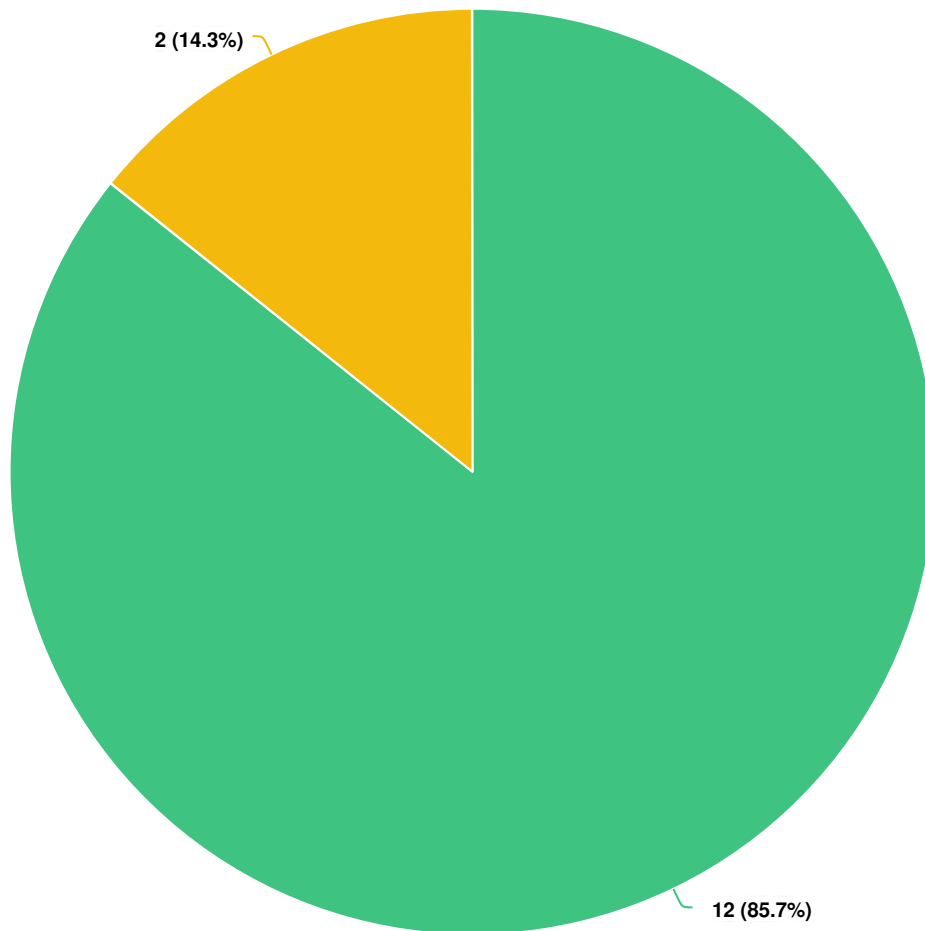
Question options

- Yes
- No

Optional question (14 response(s), 0 skipped)

Question type: Radio Button Question

Do you agree with retaining the current four community boards?



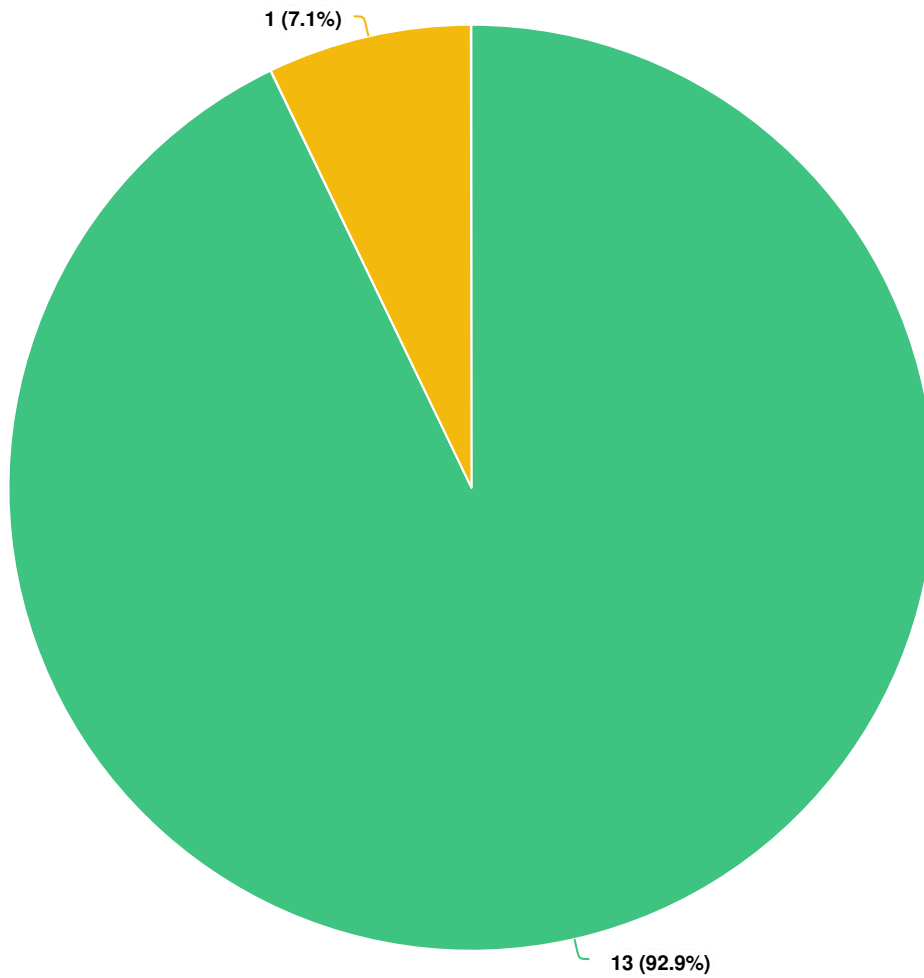
Question options

- Yes
- No

Optional question (14 response(s), 0 skipped)

Question type: Radio Button Question

Agree with name: **Woodend-Sefton Community Board**



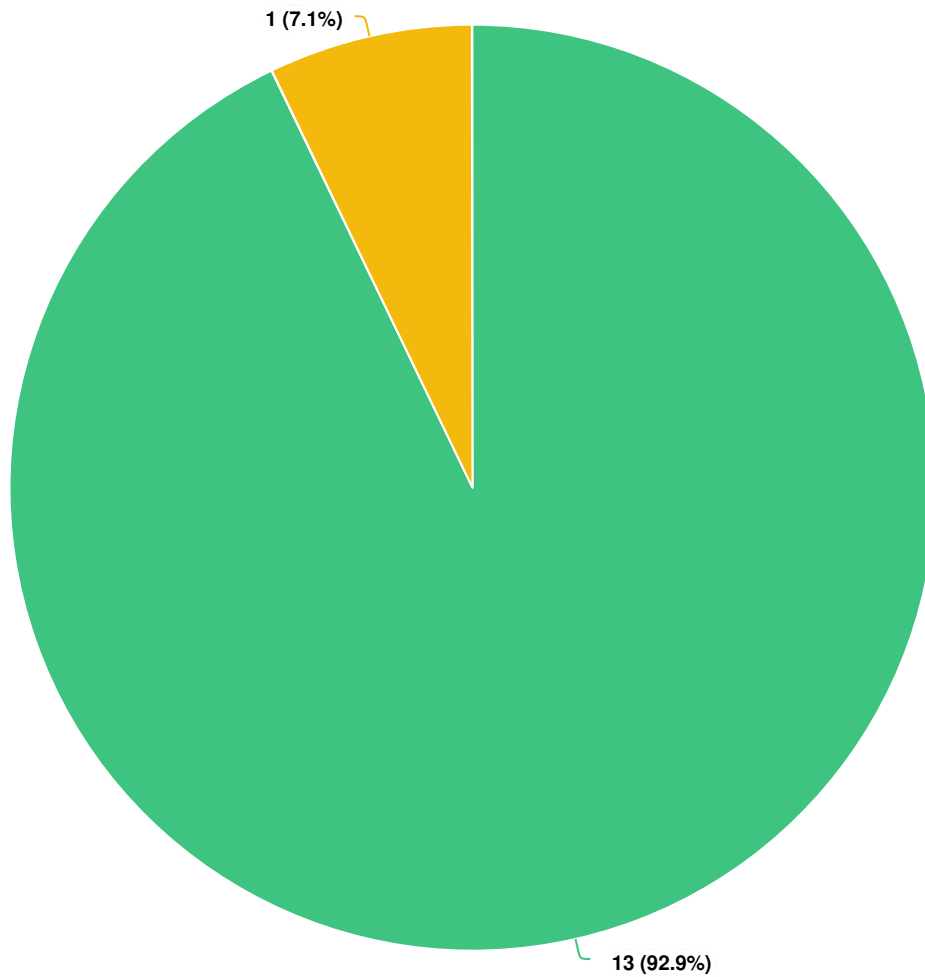
Question options

- Yes
- No

Optional question (14 response(s), 0 skipped)

Question type: Radio Button Question

Agree with name: **Kaiapoi-Tuahiwi Community Board**



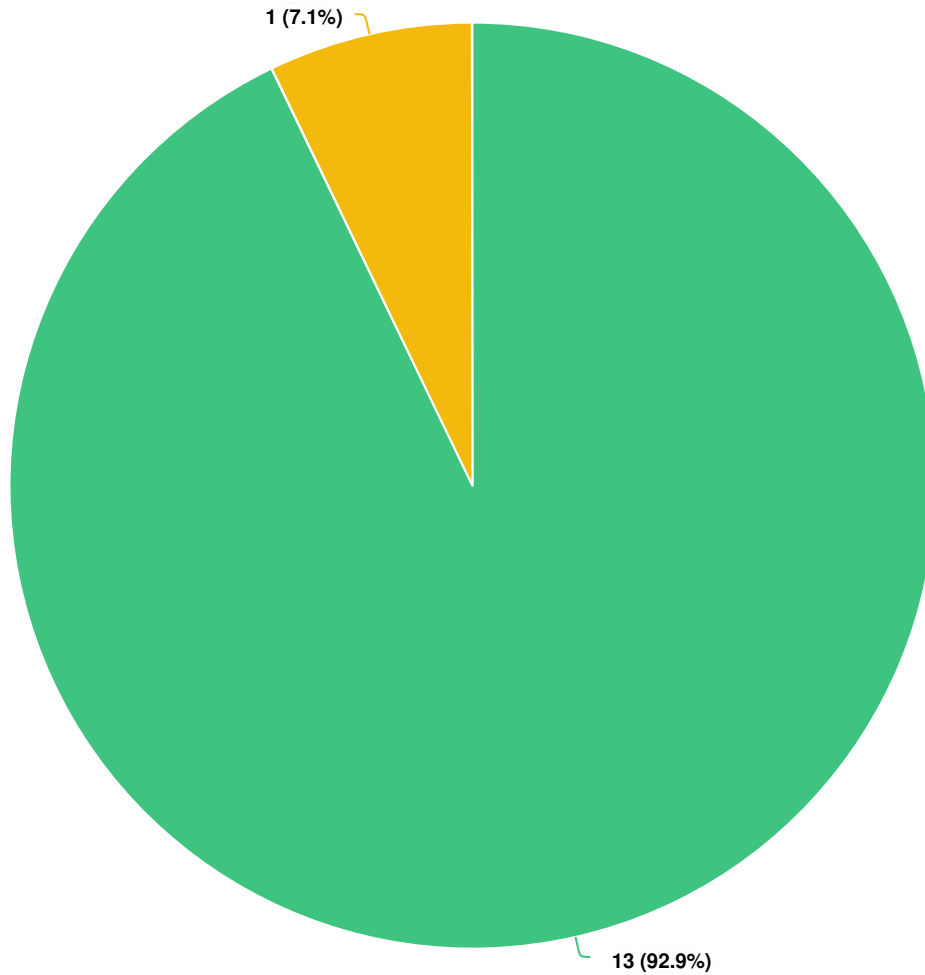
Question options

- Yes
- No

Optional question (14 response(s), 0 skipped)

Question type: Radio Button Question

Agree with name: **Rangiora-Ashley Community Board**



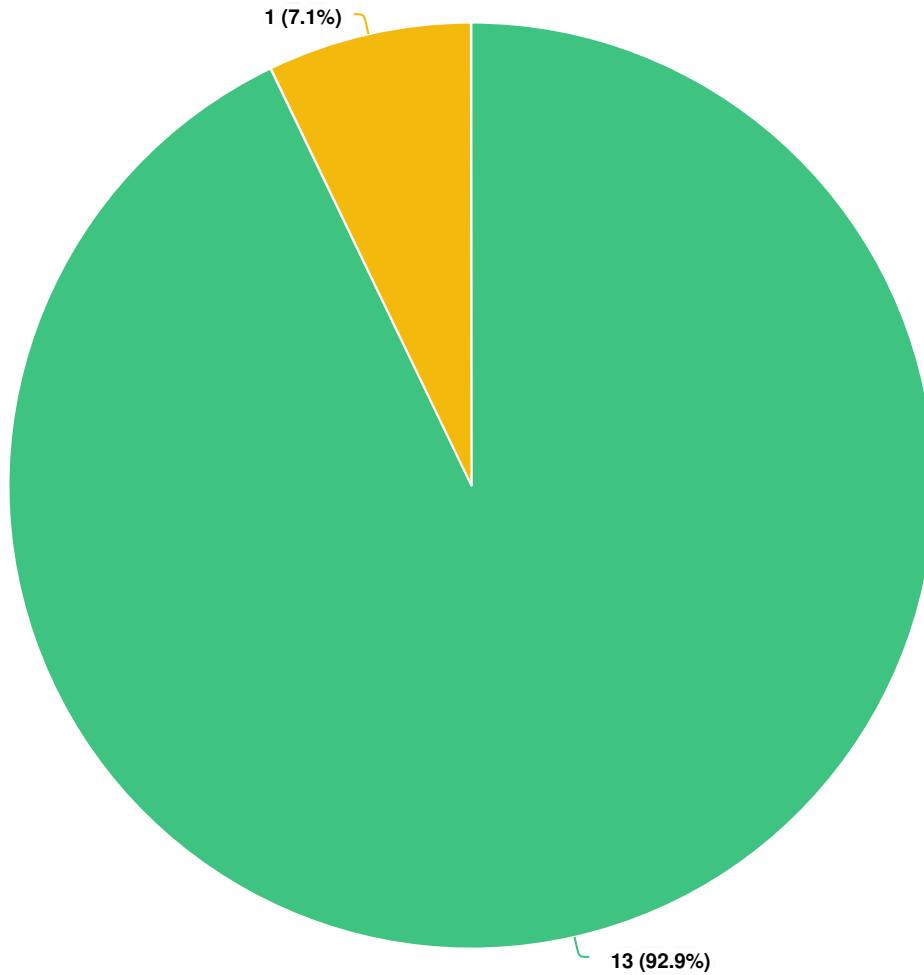
Question options

- Yes
- No

Optional question (14 response(s), 0 skipped)

Question type: Radio Button Question

Agree with name: Oxford-Ohoka Community Board



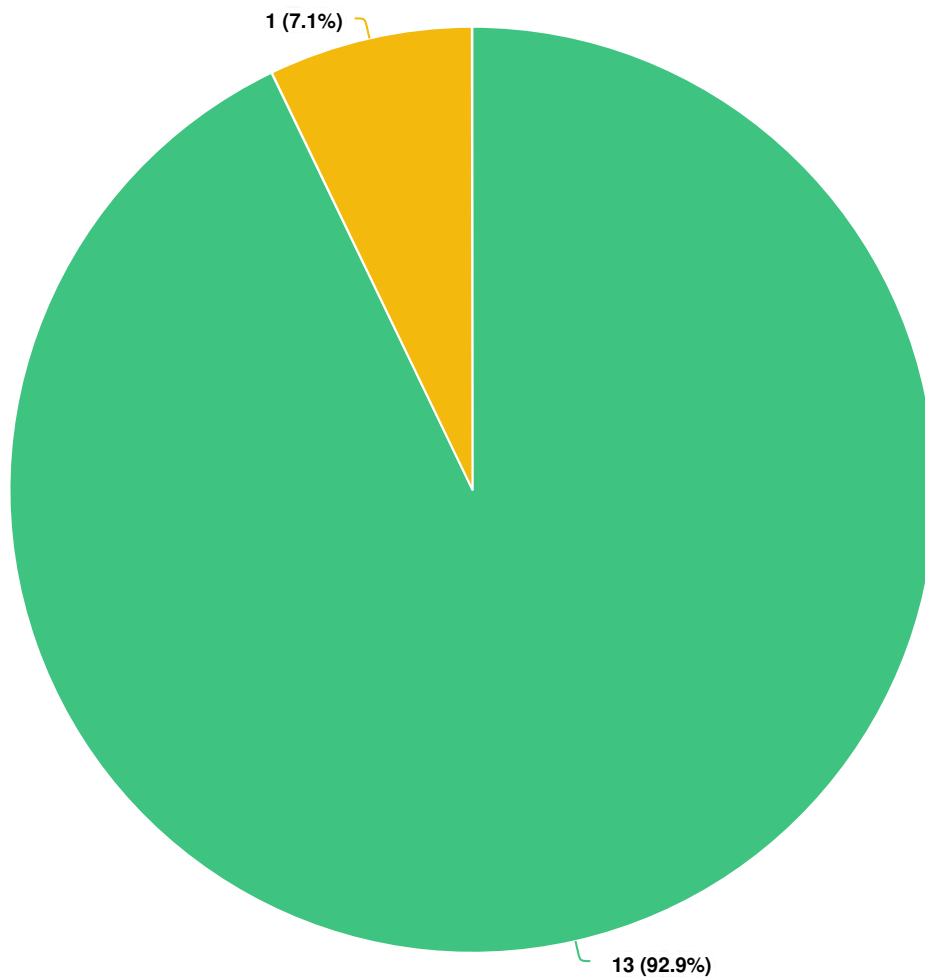
Question options

- Yes
- No

Optional question (14 response(s), 0 skipped)

Question type: Radio Button Question

Agree with names for: Rangiora and Ashley Subdivisions



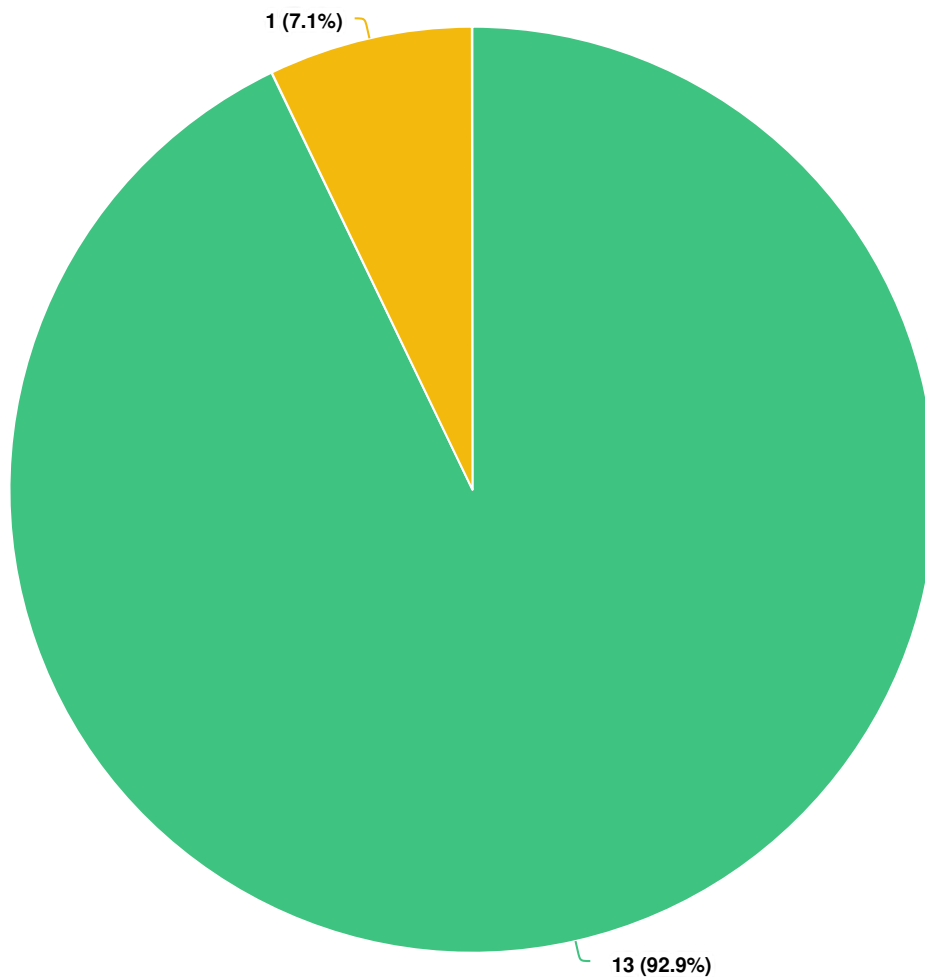
Question options

- Yes
- No

Optional question (14 response(s), 0 skipped)

Question type: Radio Button Question

Agree with names for: **Ohoka-Swannanoa and Oxford Subdivisions**



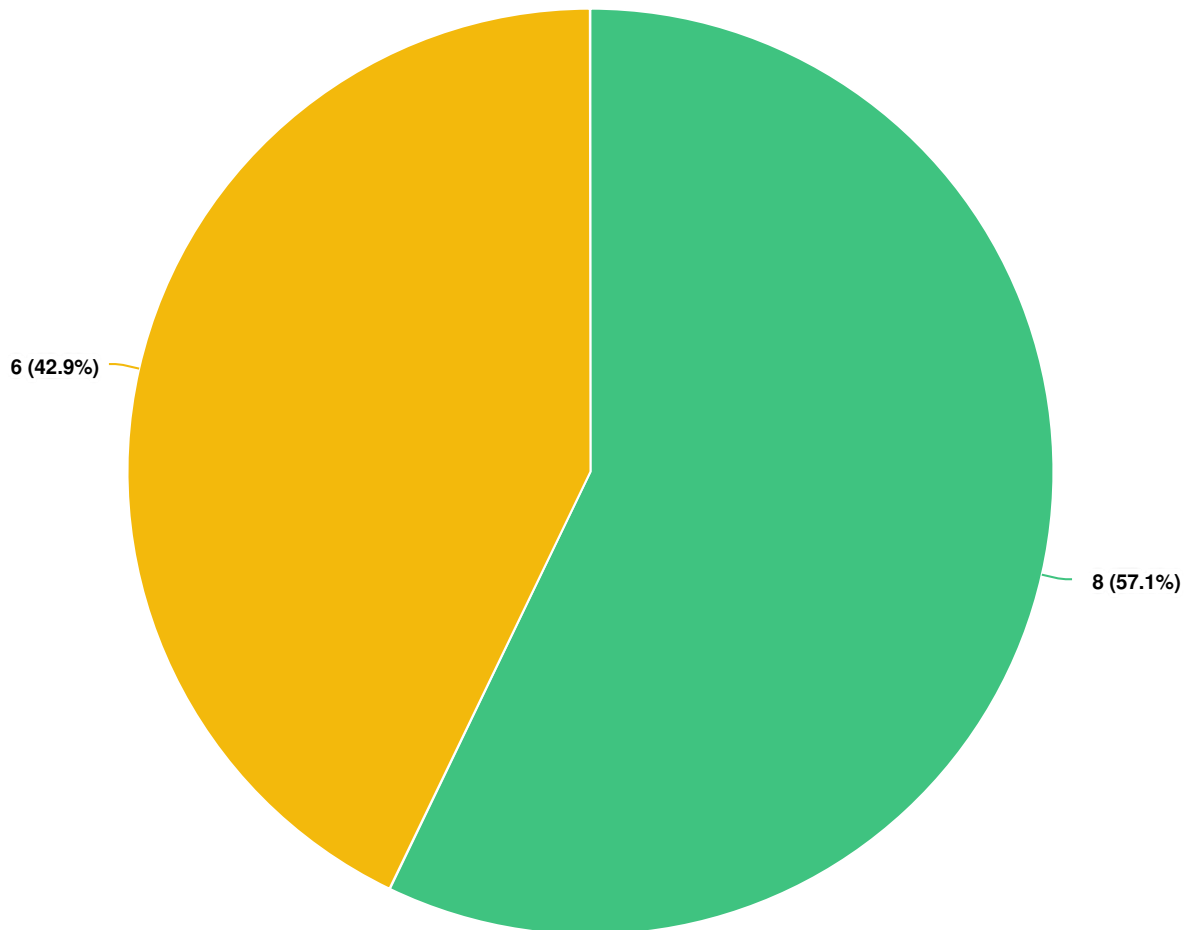
Question options

- Yes
- No

Optional question (14 response(s), 0 skipped)

Question type: Radio Button Question

Do you support the proposal?



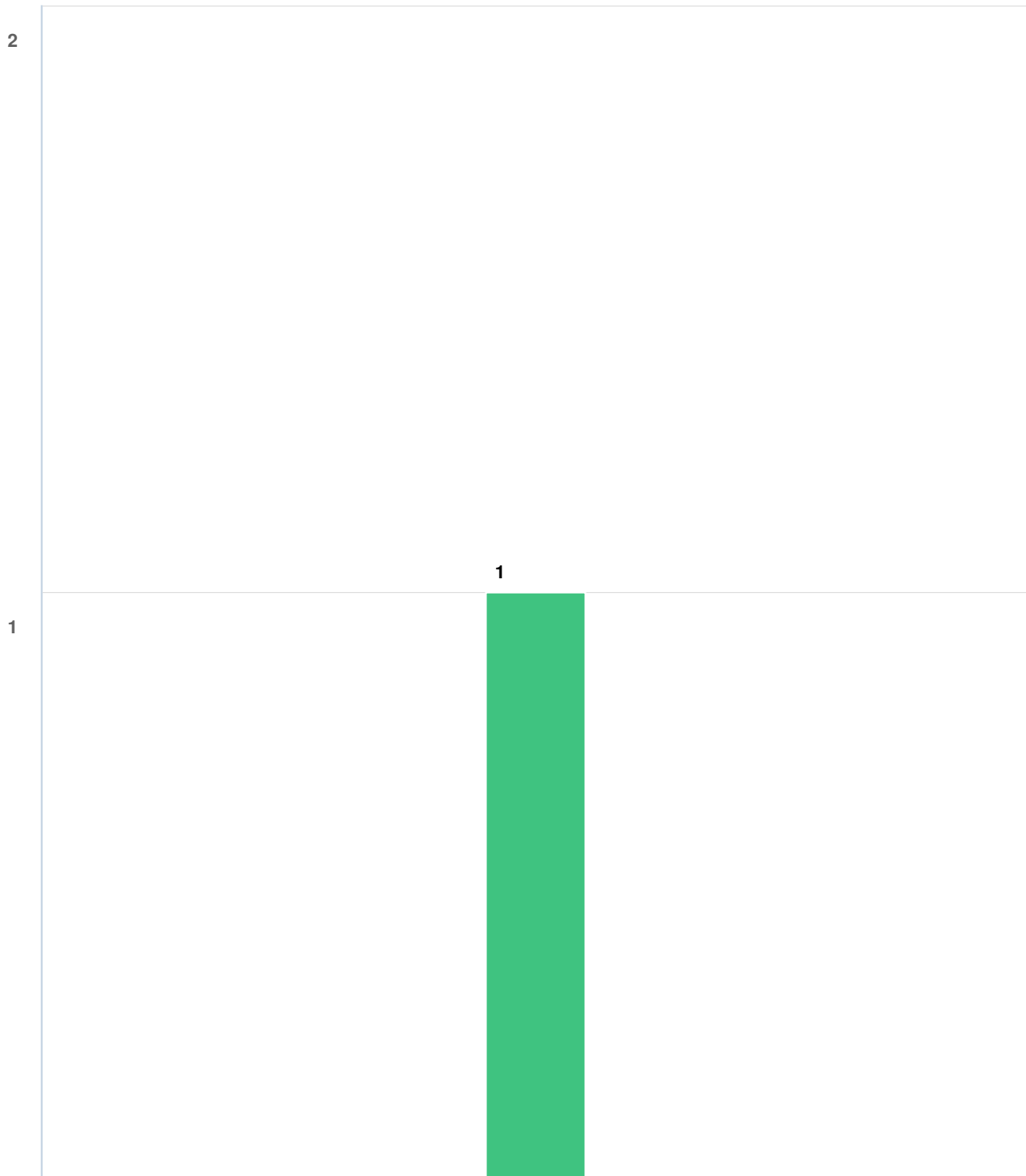
Question options

- Yes
- No

Optional question (14 response(s), 0 skipped)

Question type: Radio Button Question

Would you like to speak on your submission at the hearing?



Question options

- I wish to speak at the hearing to my submission.

Optional question (1 response(s), 13 skipped)

Question type: Checkbox Question