

[Letter template – Māori wards]

Tēnā koutou Mayor and Councillors

Māori Wards Decision

I am/we are writing to you to ask for your support to keep the Māori Wards in our local council.

I/we believe this is a positive step to honour Te Tiriti o Waitangi by increasing representation of Māori at local body level.

It is an important response to the ongoing social injustice that Māori experience through marginalisation in democratic and political decision making, including at local authority level.

It has been encouraging to see how many councils around the country have made the decision to establish Māori wards, especially since 2021. At present, 50 out of 77 councils and regional authorities either already have Māori wards or have voted to establish them for the 11 October 2025 local body election.

It is hugely disappointing that councils are being required to go to the additional expense of running a poll for an issue that has already been decided by the council. But I/we urge you to agree to continue to have Māori wards at the 2025 election and beyond.

Ngā manaakitanga

[name]

The Salvation Army [corps name]