



# The facts about Maori representation at Council



Maori wards are a way of ensuring Maori views and voices are heard at Council.

In November 2017 [Kaikoura District Council](#) voted [unanimously to create a Maori ward](#), a decision supported by our local runanga.

Establishing a [Maori ward in Kaikoura](#) would [guarantee 1 Maori Council seat \(out of 8\)](#).

The Maori community is an integral part of the Kaikoura District.

Having a Maori ward will help contribute to a diverse Council that can make decisions that recognise the needs of our entire community.



A public poll about Maori wards would cost Council [\\$15,000 of ratepayer money](#). Instead, a public notice of the decision was printed in the Kaikoura Star in late November.

Recently, pamphlets about Maori wards have been circulated in Kaikoura, asking people to sign a petition/poll against Maori wards. These pamphlets come from a lobby group called 'Hobson's Pledge', not from anyone within the Kaikoura community or Council.

Kaikoura District Council are the first Council in the South Island (Te Waipounamu) to decide to establish a Maori ward, something Council and the runanga are proud of.



If you have questions or concerns about what Maori wards mean for you, we're happy to talk about it. Get in touch via 03 319 5026 or [kdc@kaikoura.govt.nz](mailto:kdc@kaikoura.govt.nz).

Find out more [www.kaikoura.govt.nz](http://www.kaikoura.govt.nz)