



16 September 2024

File Ref: 5-IM-2



Local Government Official Information Request

Thank you for your request for information from Council. All requests to the Council for information are required to be considered in accordance with the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (LGOIMA). More information about how the Council handles LGOIMA requests can be found in the Council's LGOIMA Request Policy, which is available on the Council's website.

Your request for information was received on 13 September and related to the Māori ward voting record for Rangitikei District Council. Our response is below:

1. The voting record of your council on the decision to scrap the ward or hold a binding poll, with names of council members alongside their vote.

Response:

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/240

That Council agrees to retain the two Māori Wards (Tiikeitia ki Tai (Coastal) Ward and Tiikeitia ki Uta (Inland) Ward) and acknowledges a binding poll must be held with the October 2025 local election.

Cr P Hiroa/Cr C Raukawa. Carried Unanimous.

2. The estimated cost of holding a binding poll should that take place.

Response:

\$20,000

3. Has your council and/or your members discussed the possibility of not holding a referendum, even if council has not voted to get rid of Māori wards? If so, what would that look like?

Response:

No, Rangitikei District Council have not held any discussions of this nature.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Making this place home.

Please note that it is our policy to proactively release our responses to official information requests, where appropriate. Our response to your request will be published shortly at <https://www.rangitikei.govt.nz/council/about/contact-us/official-information> with your personal information removed.

If you wish to discuss this decision with us, please feel free to contact Lisa Daniels 0800 422 522.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Gordon', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Carol Gordon

Deputy Chief Executive / Group Manager Strategy, Community & Democracy