

# 2021 Representation Review

Briefing to Council and  
Community Board Chairs

6 April 2021

# We've been engaging with community

We have completed:

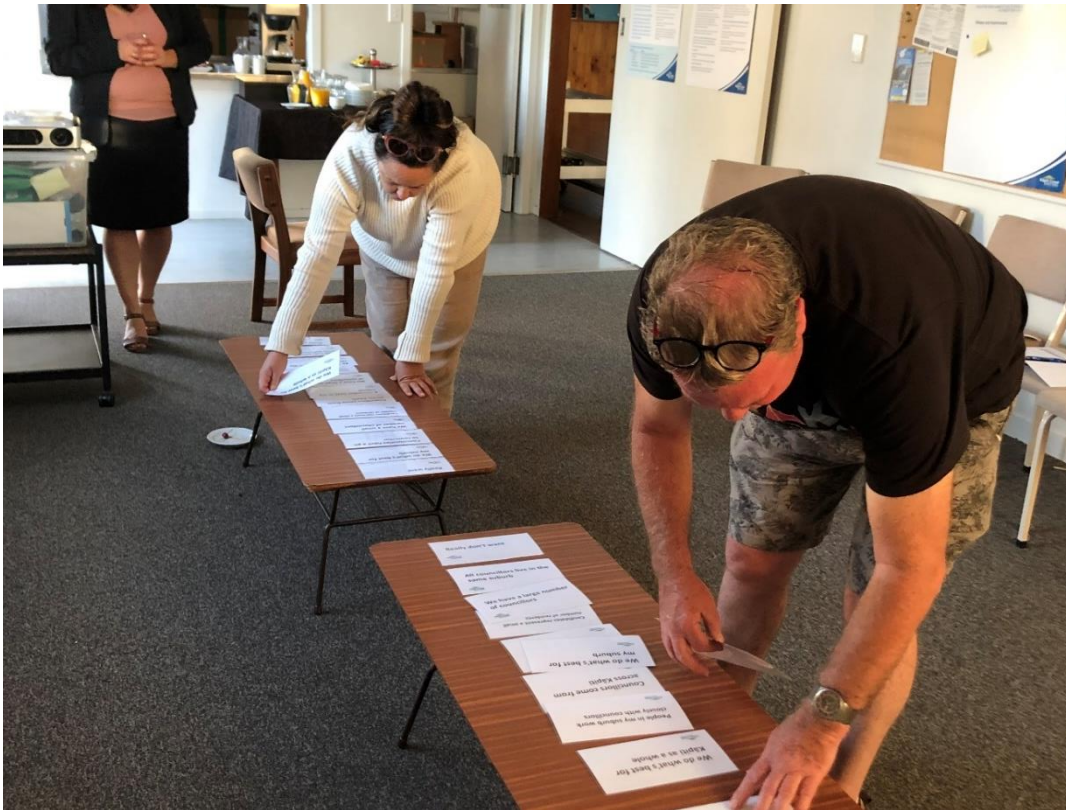
- **Engagement Phase 1**  
Engage people in the engagement
- **Engagement Phase 2**  
Understand what's broadly important to people

# We've been engaging with community

- Presented at three Community Board Meetings and will be presenting to the fourth next week

# We've been engaging with community

- Held interactive workshops in five communities



# We've been engaging with community

- Intercept interviews with about 15 people

# We've been engaging with community

- Deep-dive interviews conducted by Empathy

# We've been engaging with community

- Engaged people in interactive activities at two markets



# We've been engaging with community

- Received some responses to the survey posted on “**Kōrero mai – Have your say**”



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## Representation Review



Council's role includes acting as the voice of local people. That voice should represent all people who use and/or contribute to the facilities and services provided by Council. It must be able to represent and balance differing interests. And because Council's democratic system is funded by rates, it's important the community feels their interests are represented fairly and effectively.

In order to ensure councils continue to provide fair and effective representation for individuals and communities, they're required by law (the Local Electoral Act 2001), to review their elected representation arrangements at least every six years. You can read more about this process on the [Local Government Commission website](#).

Our last review was in 2015, so we're checking in with our community again in 2021. Once final, the updated representation arrangements will stay in effect for six years (two election cycles) or until the next review.

### Community workshops

[REGISTER](#) to get involved!

### Timeline

- March 2021**  
Inform the community and seek early input
- April to May**  
Analysing feedback and research, seek comment on the options for change (or no change)
- 26 August 2021**  
Council decision



# We've been engaging with community

- Presented at other forums:
  - Youth Council
  - Kāpiti Accessibility Advisory Group
  - Older Persons' Council

# Our activities have been designed to

- Raise awareness of representation arrangements and the review
- Get input from across the district
- Hear from people who don't usually provide input to Council
- Give channels for people who are very comfortable contributing to Council
- Show that we want people's input and are working hard to get it

**“I am not old enough to vote yet, but I know how important it is to preserve democratic arrangements – I want to know more and get involved.”**

**“I want to speak up but there are so many loud confident voices. So I don’t go, I don’t say anything. This has given me a chance to input. I feel privileged.”**

# Our approach

We haven't been asking people directly about representation arrangements. We've been asking questions and doing activities to uncover:

- Communities of interest
- Priorities when it comes to be represented
- What “effective” means to them

## Next steps are to

- Analyse the community voice so far
- Gather a little more input from elected representatives, and analyse that
- Consider it all alongside maps, population statistics, efficiency and more
- Start to think about the best representation for Kāpiti
- Gather a little more community input – in a low-key way

# Next briefing

At our next briefing on 1 June we will:

- Share what we have learned from the community
- Share our work in progress thinking about representation arrangements
- Get your input on our thinking before we start to fine-tune