

**Mayor and Councillors**  
COUNCIL

27 SEPTEMBER 2018

Meeting Status: **Public**

Purpose of Report: For Decision

## **SUBMISSION TO GREATER WELLINGTON REGIONAL COUNCIL ON INITIAL REPRESENTATION PROPOSAL FOR THE 2019 TRIENNIAL ELECTIONS**

### **PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1 This report requests approval of the proposed submission to Greater Wellington Regional Council (GWRC) on the Initial representation proposal for the 2019 triennial elections.

### **DELEGATION**

- 2 Council has the authority to consider this matter.

### **BACKGROUND**

- 3 Under the Local Electoral Act 2001 (LEA), local authorities are required to review their representation arrangements at least once every six years. GWRC is legally required to carry out its next review in 2018, for the 2019 elections.
- 4 On 16 August 2018 the Wellington Regional Council reviewed its representation arrangements and resolved its initial representation proposal, to apply for the Council's elections to be held on 12 October 2019, that the Council comprise 13 members elected from six constituencies reflecting the following identified communities of interest:

| <b>Constituency</b>      | <b>Number of members</b> | <b>Community of interest represented by the constituency</b>                           | <b>Population per Councillor</b><br>(Average 39,531)<br>(+/-10% range from the average: 35,578 to 43,484) |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|---|
| <i>Pōneke/Wellington</i> | 5                        | <i>The area of Wellington City, excluding the area of the Tawa Community</i>           | 39,500  |
| <i>Porirua/Tawa</i>      | 2                        | <i>The area of Porirua City, and the area of the Tawa Community of Wellington City</i> | 35,650  |

| <b>Constituency</b>                      | <b>Number of members</b> | <b>Community of interest represented by the constituency</b>  | <b>Population per Councillor</b><br>(Average 39,531)<br>(+/-10% range from the average: 35,578 to 43,484) |
|--|--------------------------|---|---|
| <i>Kāpiti</i>                            | <i>1</i>                 | <i>The area of the Kapiti Coast District</i>  | <i>52,700</i>   |
| <i>Te Awa Kairangi ki Tai/Lower Hutt</i> | <i>3</i>                 | <i>The area of Lower Hutt City</i>  | <i>34,900</i>   |
| <i>Te Awa Kairangi ki Uta/Upper Hutt</i> | <i>1</i>                 | <i>The area of Upper Hutt City</i>  | <i>43,200</i>   |
| <i>Wairarapa</i>                         | <i>1</i>                 | <i>The area of South Wairarapa District, Carterton District and Masterton District and that part of Tararua District that falls within the Wellington Region.</i> | <i>44,500</i>   |

- 5 On 17 August 2018 a copy of the Greater Wellington Regional Councils resolution was forwarded to the Chief Executive.
- 6 Public notice of the Council's initial representation proposal was given by 25 August 2018, with a closing date for submissions of 26 September 2018.
- 7 A draft submission from Kāpiti Coast District Council has been provided to GWRC in order to meet the closing date for submissions. This draft submission is subject to approval of Council and the final approved submission will be provided to GWRC following the 27 September 2018 meeting of Kāpiti Coast District Council.
- 8 Other than for a minor boundary alteration between the Porirua-Tawa and Wellington constituencies, and changes to names of some constituencies, as detailed in the following paragraphs, the Council has retained its current constituency boundaries and number of councillors elected from each constituency.
- 9 The minor modification to the boundary between the Wellington Constituency and the Porirua -Tawa Constituency aligns with a change to the boundary of the Tawa Community determined by the Local Government Commission on 25 September 2015.
- 10 After consultation with mana whenua the names of four constituencies have been altered, as follows:
  - Kapiti Coast Constituency has been renamed as "Kāpiti Constituency"
  - Lower Hutt Constituency has been renamed as "Te Awa Kairangi ki Tai/Lower Hutt Constituency"

- Upper Hutt Constituency has been renamed as “Te Awa Kairangi ki Uta/Upper Hutt Constituency”
- Wellington Constituency has been renamed as “Pōneke/Wellington Constituency”.

## ISSUES AND OPTIONS

### Issues

- 11 The Local Electoral Act (LEA) requires that a regional council consist of between 6 and 14 members. considering the representation proposal the following matters should be taken into account:
  - The appropriate number of Councillors to provide effective representation and to enable the Council to effectively undertake its governance responsibilities
  - The extent to which population changes are impacting on the existing representation arrangements
  - Any evidence of a desire in the community for change to the representation arrangements
- 12 Non-statutory consultation by way of a public survey was undertaken by GWRC to gauge the community's views.
- 13 60.4% of respondents disagreed with the statement that ‘the current number of councillors elected is appropriate’, with the general comments of the view that the Wellington City area is over-represented on the Council and that the Wairarapa and Kapiti Coast areas are under-represented.
- 14 In preparing for and carrying out a representation review, the Council must keep in mind the relevant provisions of the LEA, the Local Government Act 2002 (LGA) and the guidelines that are issued by the Local Government Commission (LGC) to assist local authorities to identify the factors and considerations that they should take into account when developing their representation proposals. There are three key factors that must be considered when determining a representation proposal. They are:
  - Communities of interest
  - Effective representation of communities of interest
  - Fair representation
- 15 Fair representation of electors is based on the ‘±10 percent rule’ for wards. For the Wellington District this means, under the representation proposal, one elected member for every 35,578 to 43,484 people, average 39,531. Kāpiti, however, would have one elected member for 52,700 people, a percentage deviation from the region average population per councillor of +33.2.
- 16 Greater Wellington Regional Council considered a number of options before resolving it's initial representation proposal. See Appendix 2 GWRC Report on Initial representation proposal for the 2019 triennial elections.

- 17 This proposed option provides the population of the Kāpiti district with one councillor representing a population of 52,700 resulting in a percentage deviation from the region average population per councillor of +33.2.

| Constituencies | Population | Percentage of region's population | Number of councillors per constituency | Population per councillor | Deviation from the region average population per councillor (39,531) | Percentage deviation from the region average population per councillor |
|----------------|------------|-----------------------------------|--|---------------------------|--|--|
| Kapiti Coast   | 52,700     | 10.2                              | 1                                      | 52,700                    | +13,169  | +33.2  |
| Porirua-Tawa   | 71,300     | 13.9                              | 2                                      | 35,650                    | -3,881   | -9.8   |
| Wellington     | 197,500    | 38.4                              | 5                                      | 39,500                    | -31  | -0.1   |
| Lower Hutt     | 104,700    | 20.4                              | 3                                      | 34,900                    | -4,631   | -11.7  |
| Upper Hutt     | 43,200     | 8.4                               | 1                                      | 43,200                    | +3,669   | +9.3   |
| Wairarapa      | 44,500     | 8.7                               | 1                                      | 44,500                    | +4,969   | +12.6  |
| TOTAL          | 513,900    | 100.00                            | 13                                     | 39,531                    |  |  |

- 18 An option could be considered that was not included in the 6 options considered in the GWRC report. That option being the proposal of two representatives specifically for Kāpiti, taking the total number of representatives from 13 to 14 for the entire region. However, this option could be seen as equally unfair, in terms of the percentage deviation from the region average population per councillor, as the option currently being proposed by GWRC.
- 19 Option 3 in Attachment 4 to Report 18.319 that was considered, but not selected, by GWRC at its meeting of 16 August 2018 provides for Kāpiti a much fairer and effective level of representation. *Please note the 'Deviation from the region average population per councillor for Porirua-Kāpiti' and 'Wairarapa' in the table below, from the report, should read as '-3,264' and '+4969' respectively. The percentages are, however, correct.*

| Constituencies   | Population | Percentage of region's population | Number of councillors per constituency | Population per councillor | Deviation from the region average population per councillor (39,531) | Percentage deviation from the region average population per councillor |
|------------------|------------|-----------------------------------|--|---------------------------|--|--|
| Porirua - Kapiti | 108,800    | 21.1                              | 3                                      | 36,267                    | -53  | -8.3   |
| Wellington       | 212,700    | 41.4                              | 5                                      | 42,540                    | +3,009   | +7.6   |
| Hutt Valley      | 147,900    | 28.8                              | 4                                      | 36,975                    | -2,556   | -6.5   |
| Wairarapa        | 44,500     | 8.7                               | 1                                      | 44,500                    | +1,069   | +12.6  |
| TOTAL            | 513,900    | 100.00                            | 13                                     | 39,531                    |  |  |

- 20 As identified in the GWRC report, this proposal achieves good levels of compliance with the +/-10% rule. In terms of the mathematical requirements for fair representation this was one of the two options (the other being option 4) considered by GWRC that best meet the requirements for fair representation with a 13 member Council
- 21 This merged constituency model would provide more effective representation for communities of interest and fairer representation for electors over the current representation arrangements. This option would provide more effective representation for diverse communities through enabling councillors to hear and meet with a wider variety of groups and individuals, and on a more regular basis.
- 22 This would enable the workloads of individual councillors to be more effectively managed through councillors being able to share the work involved.
- 23 In order to reach the proposed representation arrangement offered by option 1 the approach taken by GWRC has prioritised a particular consideration of communities of interest while choosing to ignore effective and fair representation.



- 24 The merged constituency model would also facilitate more effective representation and support looking ahead in terms of the growth in opportunities resulting from the new expressway and the Kāpiti Airport benefitting both the people of the Kāpiti Coast and our Porirua neighbours.
- 25 Some models covered in the GWRC report merge Upper and Lower Hutt, while others do not. In terms of its impact on fair and effective representation for Kāpiti, either option for Upper and Lower Hutt could apply.
- 26 Option 6 of the GWRC report considered a merged constituency of Kapiti, Pukerua Bay and Paekakariki Hill with 2 Regional Councillors, increasing the total number of Regional Councillors to 14. The Percentage deviation from the regional average was still high at -25.3%, thus challenging the achievement of fair and effective representation.

### Option 1

- 27 Support Greater Wellington Regional Councils Initial representation proposal for the 2019 triennial elections.

### Option 2 (*Recommended Option*)

- 28 Approve the draft submission to Greater Wellington City Council which proposes a merged constituency of Porirua-Kāpiti.

### Option 3

- 29 Propose 2 Regional Councillors for Kāpiti alone or in line with Option 6 of the GWRC report.

## CONSIDERATIONS

### Policy considerations

- 30 There are no policy considerations.

### Legal considerations

- 31 There are no legal considerations.

### Financial considerations

- 32 There are no financial considerations.

### Tāngata whenua considerations

- 33 Te Whakaminenga o Kāpiti, having been consulted by GWRC, recommended that the Kapiti Coast Constituency be renamed as 'Kāpiti Constituency'.

### Strategic considerations

- 34 The effective representation of Kāpiti interests at a regional level contributes to supporting Council's plan for growth and investment.

## **SIGNIFICANCE AND ENGAGEMENT**

### Significance policy

- 35 This matter has a moderate level of significance under the Council's Significance and Engagement Policy.

### Consultation already undertaken

- 36 No consultation has been undertaken in the development of this submission.

### Engagement planning

- 37 An engagement plan is not needed to implement this decision.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 38 That Council approve the submission to Greater Wellington Regional Council on the Initial representation proposal for the 2019 triennial elections as at Appendix 3 of this report.

| <b>Report prepared by</b> | <b>Approved for submission</b> | <b>Approved for submission</b> |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
|---------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|

Leyanne Belcher

Nicki Williams

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**Democracy Services  
Manager**

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## **ATTACHMENTS**

Appendix 1 GWRC Resolution on Initial representation proposal for the 2019 triennial elections

Appendix 2 GWRC Report on Initial representation proposal for the 2019 triennial elections

Appendix 3 Draft submission

## Wellington Regional Council meeting, 16 August 2018

### Resolution on Report 18.319 - Initial representation proposal for the 2019 triennial elections

*That the Council:*

1. ***Receives*** the report.
2. ***Notes*** the content of the report.
3. ***Agrees*** that the six options outlined in section 4.1 of this report represent the range of reasonably practicable options for consideration.
4. ***Notes*** that any resolution to change the existing representation arrangements must include an explanation for the reasons for the proposed change.
5. ***Endorses*** the recommendation from mana whenua that the following changes should be made to constituency names to reflect the history and mana whenua narrative of the Wellington Region:
  - i. Kapiti Coast Constituency to be renamed as “Kāpiti Constituency”
  - ii. Lower Hutt Constituency to have the dual name of “Te Awa Kairangi ki Tai/Lower Hutt Constituency”
  - iii. Upper Hutt Constituency to have the dual name of “Te Awa Kairangi ki Uta/Upper Hutt Constituency”
  - iv. Wellington Constituency to have the dual name of “Pōneke/Wellington Constituency”.
6. Having assessed the six options in terms of the requirements for effective and fair representation, and considering that it is necessary to depart from the population formula of section 19V(2) of the Local Electoral Act 2001 in order to provide effective representation for the distinct communities of interest of Kāpiti, Te Awa Kairangi ki Tai/Lower Hutt, and Wairarapa, ***resolves*** its initial representation proposal for the 2019 triennial elections, providing for a Council of 13 members, elected from six constituencies, as follows:

| <b><i>Constituency</i></b> | <b><i>Number of members</i></b> | <b><i>Community of interest represented by the constituency</i></b> | <b><i>Population per Councillor</i></b><br><br>(Average: 39,531)<br><br>(+/-10% range from the average: 35,578 to 43,484) |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------|---|---|
|                            |                                 |   |   |

|  |          |   |               |
|--|----------|---|---------------|
| <i>Pōneke/Wellington</i>                 | <i>5</i> | <i>The area of Wellington City, excluding the area of the Tawa Community</i>  | <i>39,500</i> |
| <i>Porirua-Tawa</i>                      | <i>2</i> | <i>The area of Porirua City, and the area of the Tawa Community of Wellington City</i>  | <i>35,650</i> |
| <i>Kāpiti</i>                            | <i>1</i> | <i>The area of the Kapiti Coast District</i>  | <i>52,700</i> |
| <i>Te Awa Kairangi ki Tai/Lower Hutt</i> | <i>3</i> | <i>The area of Lower Hutt City</i>  | <i>34,900</i> |
| <i>Te Awa Kairangi ki Uta/Upper Hutt</i> | <i>1</i> | <i>The area of Upper Hutt City</i>  | <i>43,200</i> |
| <i>Wairarapa</i>                         | <i>1</i> | <i>The area of South Wairarapa District, Carterton District and Masterton District, and that part of Tararua District that falls within the Wellington Region</i> | <i>44,500</i> |

7. ***Notes** that this proposal retains the Council's existing representation arrangements, subject to the inclusion of te reo names for constituencies, as detailed above, and also incorporating the change to the boundary of the Tawa Community as determined by the Local Government Commission on 25 September 2015 in order to provide consistency for electors and to facilitate effective election administration.*
8. ***Establishes** the Representation Review 2018 Hearing Committee and **adopts** the terms of reference for the Committee, as set out in Attachment 3 to this report.*
9. ***Appoints** Crs Blakeley, Brash, Donaldson, Gaylor, Kedgley, Laban, Laidlaw, Lamason, McKinnon, Ogden, Ponter, Staples and Swain to the Committee and **appoints** Cr Donaldson as Chair.*

The motion was CARRIED.



Report 18.319  
Date 9 August 2018  
File CCAB-8-1731

Committee Council  
Author Francis Ryan, Manager, Democratic Services

## Initial representation proposal for the 2019 triennial elections

### 1. Purpose

For Council to resolve its initial representation proposal for the 2019 triennial elections, and to establish a committee to hear and consider submissions on the initial proposal and make a recommendation to Council on the shape of its final representation proposal.

### 2. Previous consideration by Council

A report on this matter was previously considered by Council at its meeting on 14 June 2018 (Report 18.183 refers). That report was left to lie on the table to enable Councillors to further consider representation review matters. This report supersedes Report 18.183.

### 3. Background

#### 3.1 Statutory requirements

Under the Local Electoral Act 2001 (LEA), local authorities are required to review their representation arrangements at least once every six years. The Council carried out its previous review under the LEA in 2012 for the 2013 elections, and is therefore legally required to carry out its next review in 2018, for the 2019 elections.

#### 3.2 Key factors for consideration

In preparing for and carrying out a representation review, the Council must keep in mind the relevant provisions of the LEA, the Local Government Act 2002 (LGA) and the guidelines that are issued by the Local Government Commission (LGC) to assist local authorities to identify the factors and considerations that they should take into account when developing their representation proposals. These principles are set out in [Attachment 1](#).

There are three key factors that must be considered by the Council when determining its representation proposal. They are:

- Communities of interest
- Effective representation of communities of interest
- Fair representation

These are the factors that the LGC will focus on if appeals and/or objections are received against the Council's final proposal, or if the Council's final proposal needs to be referred to the LGC for determination.

A detailed explanation of these factors is set out in [Attachment 2](#).

### 3.3 Process

The LGC recommends that the following process be followed to achieve a robust outcome that complies with the statutory criteria:

**Step 1** *Identify communities of interest*

Determine communities of interest in the region.

**Step 2** *Determine effective representation for identified communities of interest*

Consider whether each identified community of interest needs separate representation, or whether communities of interest can be grouped together to achieve effective representation.

Determine how many constituencies there should be, define their boundaries and name the constituencies.

**Step 3** *Consider fairness of representation for electors of the constituencies*

Consider a range of options for the total membership of the Council. Under each option, determine the ratio of population per member for each proposed constituency.

For each option, compare the subdivision ratios calculated with the average population per member for the Council.

Ensure that the subdivision ratios under the options for total membership fall within +/- 10% of the average population per member (this is known as the "+/- 10% rule"). If they do not comply, consider altering constituency boundaries or reconfiguring constituency arrangements, to the extent practicable to provide effective representation for communities of interest, so that the constituency ratios fall within the required range.

### 3.4 Timetable

The LEA sets out the legislative timeframes the Council is required to comply with in carrying out its representation review. It is important to note that once the Council has resolved its initial decision, there is no opportunity to delay or stop the statutory process.

The following table sets out the statutory deadlines and the proposed timeframes for the Council's representation review:

| <b>Task</b>  | <b>Proposed date</b>    | <b>Statutory deadline</b>  |
|--|-------------------------|--|
| Council decision on initial representation proposal for the 2019 elections   | 16 August 2018          | No deadline prescribed, but public notice of the resolution must be issued within 14 days of the resolution and no later than 8 September 2018 |
| Public notification of initial proposal  | By 25 August 2018       | 8 September 2018   |
| Close of public submissions  | 26 September 2018       | No less than one month after the date of public notice   |
| Representation Review Committee to hear and consider submissions   | 18 October 2018         |  |
| Council to consider Committee's recommendations on final proposal, and to adopt final proposal   | 31 October 2018         |  |
| Public notice of final proposal  | By 7 November 2018      | Within six weeks of the close of submissions. For submissions closing on 26 September 2018, the deadline is 7 November 2018.                   |
| Close of period for appeals and objections on final proposal   | 7 December 2018         | No less than one month after the date of the public notice of final proposal, and no later than 20 December 2018.                              |
| All relevant information to be provided to LGC, if appeals and/or objections received, and/or Council's final proposal does not comply with the "+/-10% rule" of fair representation | 21 December 2018        | 15 January 2019  |
| LGC to determine representation arrangements, if required.   | To be determined by LGC | No later than 10 April 2019  |



If no submissions are made on the Council's initial proposal, the proposal becomes the final proposal which will take effect for the 2019 election, unless the proposal does not comply with the +/- 10% rule of fair representation, in which case it must be referred to the LGC for determination.

If submissions are received on the Council's initial proposal, the Council must consider each submission and resolve a final proposal based on its consideration of submissions. It is proposed that the Representation Review 2018 Hearing Committee be established to consider and hear the submissions on the initial proposal and to recommend to Council the shape of the final representation proposal. The proposed terms of reference for the committee are attached as [Attachment 3](#).

The Council must demonstrate that it has considered submissions by providing in its public notice of the final proposal reasons for any amendments to its initial proposal, and reasons for any rejection of submissions. If there are no objections or appeals following public notice of the final proposal, then the final proposal will take effect for the 2019 election, unless the proposal does not comply with the +/- 10% rule of fair representation. If the proposal does not comply with the +/- 10% rule of fair representation it must be referred to the LGC for determination. Any objections or appeals following the public notice of the final proposal must be lodged with Greater Wellington Regional Council (GWRC) within the prescribed timeframe, and they must be forwarded to the LGC. The LGC will then make a binding determination. LGC determinations may only be appealed on a point of law to the High Court.

### 3.5 Current representation

The Council's current representation arrangements were determined in 2013 by the LGC, following the receipt of appeals and objections against the Council's final proposal for the 2013 triennial elections.

The Council is currently made up of 13 members, elected from six constituencies, as follows:

| Constituency | Number of members | Geographical area covered by the constituency  |
|--------------|-------------------|--|
| Wellington   | 5                 | The area of Wellington City, excluding the area of the Tawa Community (as defined in the GWRC 2013 representation determination) |



|              |   |   |
|--------------|---|---|
| Porirua-Tawa | 2 | The area of Porirua City, and the area of the Tawa Community of Wellington City (as defined in the GWRC 2013 representation determination)                  |
| Kapiti Coast | 1 | The area of the Kapiti Coast District   |
| Lower Hutt   | 3 | The area of Lower Hutt City   |
| Upper Hutt   | 1 | The area of Upper Hutt City   |
| Wairarapa    | 1 | The area of South Wairarapa District, Carterton District and Masterton District, and that part of Tararua District that falls within the Wellington Region. |

### 3.6 Councillor workshop

A series of workshops has been held to consider representation review matters.

On 15 March 2018 a Councillor workshop on the 2018 representation review was held. This workshop provided the opportunity for Councillors to discuss the legal requirements relating to representation reviews, and a range of representation scenarios, to assist Councillors in considering the shape of an initial proposal.

At the Council workshop on 21 June 2018 Councillors requested officers to develop a scenario for the inclusion of the Pukerua Bay area in the Kapiti Coast Constituency. Councillors also requested the Council Chair to engage with Ara Tahi on the matter of Te Reo or bilingual names for constituencies.

The scenarios considered by Councillors are further discussed in sections 4.1 and 6 of this report.

A third Council workshop was held on 2 August 2018 to discuss the additional scenario sought at the preceding workshop, and to discuss the outcome of the Chair's engagement with Ara Tahi (see section 7 below).

## 4. Comment

### 4.1 Identification of options

The scenarios detailed in this report have been discussed in the Council workshops; they are mostly based on options considered by the Council when developing previous representation proposals.

Each scenario incorporates a minor alteration to the boundary of the Tawa Community of Wellington City approved by the LGC in September 2015. The LGC's determination is available at:

<http://lgc.govt.nz/assets/Uploads/Wellington-City-Council-2016.pdf>. In the workshops Councillors considered it appropriate to factor the minor boundary

alteration into the scenarios as the alignment of boundaries is an important aid to efficient election administration.

The options (each incorporating the 2015 boundary change for the Tawa Community, where relevant) are:

- Option 1: The status quo, as outlined in section 3.5 above
- Option 2: The status quo, modified by the inclusion of the area of the Tawa Community in the Wellington Constituency
- Option 3: A merged constituency model, with the existing Upper Hutt and Lower Hutt constituencies merged into a single constituency and the Kapiti Coast Constituency and Porirua City part of the existing Porirua-Tawa Constituency merged into a single constituency
- Option 4: A modified merged constituency model, with the existing Upper Hutt and Lower Hutt constituencies merged into a single constituency and the Kapiti Coast Constituency and Porirua-Tawa Constituency merged into a single constituency.
- Option 5: The status quo, with the inclusion of a second member for the Wairarapa Constituency
- Option 6: The inclusion of the Paekakariki Hill and Pukerua Bay area units in the Kapiti Coast Constituency.

Statistical information for these options is included in [Attachment 4](#).

## **4.2 Issues to consider in assessing the options**

In addition to the process outlined in section 3.3, the following matters should be taken into account in developing the Council's initial representation proposal:

- The electoral system under which the next election will be conducted
- The appropriate number of Councillors to provide effective representation and to enable the Council to effectively undertake its governance responsibilities
- The extent to which population changes are impacting on the existing representation arrangements
- Any evidence of a desire in the community for change to the representation arrangements.

### **4.2.1 Electoral system**

The Council's 2019 election will be conducted under the Single Transferable Vote (STV) electoral system. With regard to STV, the LGC makes the following comment in its *Guidelines for local authorities undertaking representation reviews (June 2017)*:

*Five to seven members is preferable for wards or constituencies using STV (the absolute minimum is three) to gain the full benefits of proportional representation under STV.*

In considering the LGC's commentary in developing its initial proposal, the Council should note that the STV electoral system applies to constituencies of any size, including single member constituencies.

#### 4.2.2 Number of Councillors

The LEA requires that a regional council must be made up of between 6 and 14 members (inclusive). When initially established in 1989, the Council had 19 members; this was reduced by legislation to 14 members in 1992, and since 2001 the Council has comprised 13 members.

In considering the total number of members to be elected to the Council, the following matters are relevant:

- The principles of the LGA place emphasis on the ability of local authorities to take into account the diversity of the community in their decision-making. A larger council may provide more effective representation for diverse communities through enabling councillors to hear and meet with a wider variety of groups and individuals, and on a more regular basis, than may be the case with a smaller council.
- GWRC has a broad range of functions and responsibilities. A larger council may enable the workloads of individual councillors to be more effectively managed through councillors being able to share the work involved.

#### 4.2.3 Population changes

For the six year period from 30 June 2011 to 30 June 2017 the changes in the population of each district of the region are shown in the following table:

| District              | Estimated usually resident population as at 30 June 2011 | Estimated usually resident population as at 30 June 2017 | Change (and percentage change) |
|-----------------------|--|--|--------------------------------|
| Wellington City       | 200,100  | 212,700  | +12,600 (6.3%)                 |
| Porirua City          | 52,700   | 56,100   | +3,400 (6.5%)                  |
| Kapiti Coast District | 49,800   | 52,700   | +2,900 (5.8%)                  |
| Lower Hutt City       | 103,000  | 104,700  | +1,700 (1.7%)                  |
| Upper Hutt City       | 41,500   | 43,200   | +1,700 (4.1%)                  |



|                          |         |         |                |
|--------------------------|---------|---------|----------------|
| South Wairarapa District | 9,420   | 10,250  | +830 (8.8%)    |
| Carterton District       | 7,650   | 9,050   | +1,400 (18.3%) |
| Masterton District       | 23,500  | 25,200  | +1,700 (7.2%)  |
| Region                   | 487,700 | 513,900 | +26,200 (5.4%) |

The information shows that over the six year period growth has been experienced across all districts of the Region, with growth ranging from 1.7% in Lower Hutt City to 18.3% in Carterton District.

The table below details each territorial authority's share of the Region's population. It shows that six territorial authority areas increased their share of the regional population, with those increases offset by a declining regional share in Lower Hutt City (-0.7%) and Upper Hutt City (-0.1%). Regional shares increased most significantly for Carterton District (0.2%) and Wellington City (0.4%).

| District                 | Percentage share of the Wellington Region's population 2011 | Percentage share of the Wellington Region's population 2017 | Change in percentage share |
|--------------------------|---|---|----------------------------|
| Wellington City          | 41.0%   | 41.4%   | +0.4%                      |
| Porirua City             | 10.8%   | 10.9%   | +0.1%                      |
| Kapiti Coast District    | 10.2%   | 10.3%   | +0.1%                      |
| Lower Hutt City          | 21.1%   | 20.4%   | -0.7%                      |
| Upper Hutt City          | 8.5%  | 8.4%  | -0.1%                      |
| South Wairarapa District | 1.9%  | 2.0%  | +0.1%                      |
| Carterton District       | 1.6%  | 1.8%  | +0.2%                      |
| Masterton District       | 4.8%  | 4.9%  | +0.1%                      |

#### 4.2.4 Non-statutory consultation

Non-statutory consultation by way of a public survey was undertaken to gauge the community's views on the current number of constituencies, the constituencies' names and boundaries, and the number of elected members. The survey also invited any other comments on the current representation arrangements.

The survey, together with background information, was published on GWRC's website and a link to the survey was advertised on GWRC's Facebook page,

Neighbourly, and Twitter. The survey was open from 11 May 2018 to 5 June 2018.

95 persons completed the survey; an analysis of their feedback is provided as [Attachment 5](#). By way of summary:

- 37.5% of respondents live or own property in Wellington City; 13.5% in Lower Hutt City; 12.5% in Upper Hutt City; 11.5% in both Kapiti Coast and South Wairarapa Districts; 7.3% in Porirua City; 6.3% in Masterton District; 5.2% in Carterton District.
- 54.7% of respondents consider that the current number of constituencies provides effective representation.
- 73.7% of respondents consider that the name and boundaries of each constituency are clear and appropriate. Five respondents suggested that the Council should consider more use of Te Reo in its constituency names.
- 60.4% of respondents disagreed with the statement that “the current number of councillors elected is appropriate”, with the general comments of the view that the Wellington City area is over-represented on the Council and that the Wairarapa and Kapiti Coast areas are under-represented.

## 5. Communities of interest and effective representation

The LEA requires that constituency boundaries must comply with the boundaries of one or more territorial authority districts or the boundaries of wards, so far as is practicable.

Since the constitution of the Council in 1989 the Council’s constituency arrangements have principally been aligned to territorial authority districts, or grouping of territorial authority districts in the case of the Wairarapa.

These arrangements have recognised that territorial authority areas provide a sense of community in terms of the day-to-day local authority services provided and utilised by individuals and communities. The development of regional council constituencies that overlay territorial authority areas has also reflected the delivery of the GWRC’s functions, including in the areas of transport planning, whole catchment management, biosecurity, conservation forestry and bulk water supply.

For six previous elections there has been a departure, in part, from the alignment of constituencies with territorial authority boundaries:

- For the 1989 and 1995 elections the area of Wellington City formed two constituencies –Wellington North and Wellington South.
- For the 2007, 2010, 2013 and 2016 elections the area of the Tawa Community was joined with the area of Porirua City to form the Porirua-Tawa Constituency.

The Council has previously explored options for merging its existing constituencies to form larger, multi-member constituencies. In 2006 the Council's initial proposal for the 2007 elections was similar to the arrangements proposed in Option 3. In resolving that proposal the Council took the following matters into account:

- Larger constituencies align with councillors' focus on the regional perspective and will help people move away from the idea that local regional councillors are the spokespersons for the territorial authority area with which their constituency is aligned.
- Larger constituencies result in an increase in the number of members that electors can vote for.

As two merged constituency models (Options 3 and 4) are currently identified for consideration by the Council it will be important for the Council to consider whether these options provide more effective representation for communities of interest and fairer representation for electors over the current representation arrangements.

In terms of the mathematical requirements for fair representation Options 3 and 4 best meet the requirements for fair representation with a 13 member Council. The Council would therefore need to consider whether adopting one of these options provides more effective representation for communities of interest, and overall a more balanced set of representation arrangements than Options 1, 2, 5 or 6.

It should be noted that the LEA requires that any resolution by the Council to change the current representation arrangements must include a statement of reasons for the proposed change.

## **6. Discussion on the options**

### **6.1 Option 1: status quo**

This option retains the representation for communities of interest, first determined by the LGC in 2007 and reconfirmed by the LGC in 2013, subject to the incorporation of the minor boundary change for the Tawa Community referenced in section 3.1. In 2007 and again in 2013 the LGC decided that the Kapiti Coast Constituency should be retained, notwithstanding its significant non-compliance with the +/- 10% rule on the basis that it is a distinct community of interest requiring its own representation.

In order to achieve compliance with the +/-10% rule across the remainder of the region to the extent practicable the LGC in 2007 determined that the area of the Tawa Community of Wellington City should be merged with the area of Porirua City to form the Porirua-Tawa Constituency. In making this change to constituency boundaries the LGC noted the geography of the area, in particular the Porirua-Tawa basin and the location of the catchment of the Porirua Stream, and the close proximity of Porirua to Wellington City.



As the table in **Attachment 4** shows, the application of the latest population statistics for a 13 member Council shows that the non-compliance with the +/-10% rule, when comparing the 30 June 2011 and 2017 statistics, has slightly increased in the Kapiti Coast Constituency (2011: 32.8%, 2017: 33.2%), while the Lower Hutt Constituency is now marginally non-compliant (2011: -8.5%, 2017: -11.7%) and the Wairarapa Constituency is also non-compliant (2011: 8.2%, 2017: 12.6%).

Other than for the 2007 inclusion of the Tawa community area with the area of Porirua City to form the Porirua-Tawa Constituency this option generally reflects communities of interest recognised for electoral purposes since the constitution of the Council in 1989.

## **6.2 Option 2: modified status quo**

This option would place the Tawa Community area back in the Wellington Constituency, which would result in the areas of the Porirua and Wellington constituencies aligning with the boundaries of the Porirua and Wellington city council areas.

The outcome of this realignment is that the Porirua Constituency becomes over-represented by 29.0% in a thirteen member Council.

While this option would realign the constituency boundaries to those that existed prior to the 2007 elections, it would result in deterioration of electoral fairness when compared with the option outlined in section 5.1. In its 2007 determination the LGC considered that the location of Porirua, being in close proximity to Wellington City, and the geography of the area, did not warrant an exemption to the +/-10% rule for the Porirua area.

## **6.3 Option 3: merged constituency scenario**

This option would merge the existing Upper Hutt and Lower Hutt constituencies into a single constituency and the existing Kapiti Coast constituency and the Porirua City part of the existing Porirua-Tawa Constituency into a single constituency.

From an electoral fairness point of view this option, for a 13 member Council, complies with the +/-10% rule of fair representation, except in the case of the Wairarapa Constituency. However, the matter of whether this scenario would provide effective representation for communities of interest would also need to be considered by Council.

Te Awa Kairangi/Hutt River is a common dominant feature of Lower Hutt and Upper Hutt. The Council has made major investments in flood protection and river management on Te Awa Kairangi/Hutt River over many years, with the current focus of its work on areas close to the Lower Hutt CBD. Matters that may be relevant to the Council's considerations include:

- The mix of urban and rural, particularly in Upper Hutt.

- Upper Hutt is the location of some significant regional resources, including the Macaskill Lakes water storage lakes at Te Marua, regional parks and forests.
- GWRC's catchment management, biosecurity, flood protection and biodiversity activities in the Hutt Valley are undertaken on a Hutt Valley catchment-wide basis.

The linkages between Porirua City and Kapiti Coast District in terms of community of interest also need to be considered. While a single State Highway and rail line runs through both areas there are quite significant differences in terms of:

- The demographics of the communities – the age profiles of each area show important differences. This, combined with the differing ethnic and income compositions of sub-districts, particularly in Porirua City, gives rise to a different mix of social and cultural issues in each district. Census 2013 information shows significant differences in the ages profiles of the two districts:

| <b>Area</b>  | <b>Median age</b> | <b>Percentage aged 65 and over</b> | <b>Percentage aged under 15</b> |
|--------------|-------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| New Zealand  | 38                | 14.3                               | 20.4                            |
| Porirua      | 35.2              | 10.3                               | 24.5                            |
| Kapiti Coast | 46.9              | 25.3                               | 18.4                            |

- Geography – Te Awarua-o-Porirua Harbour is a focus for Porirua City and for regional council activities in the Porirua area, while the Kapiti Coast has a long stretch of open coastline, dissected by significant river systems. The Pukerua Bay escarpment is an important physical demarcation between the rolling topography of Porirua and the coastal plain of the Kapiti Coast.
- Community structure – Porirua City is principally a large and diverse urban area, with rural areas on its fringes. The Kapiti Coast is a series of smaller urban communities and adjoining rural areas.
- Community issues – the nature of GWRC's activities differ across these areas. By way of example, management of Te Awarua-o-Porirua Harbour is an important component of GWRC's activities in Porirua City, while flood protection and wetland restoration are key activities on the Kapiti Coast. Also, through Wellington Water GWRC supplies bulk water to Porirua City while the Kapiti Coast has its own local water supply arrangements.
- Some Kapiti communities look northwards to the Horowhenua for their social, cultural and business connections.



#### **6.4 Option 4: Modified merged constituency scenario**

The option is the same as that outlined in section 5.3, except that the Kapiti Coast Constituency and the Porirua-Tawa Constituency would be united to form a new constituency.

For a 13 member Council this option also complies with the +/-10% rule of fair representation, with the exception of the Wairarapa Constituency, and achieves a greater degree of electoral fairness (electoral equality per member) than the 13 member option outlined in section 6.3.

Similar issues to those identified in section 6.3 apply to this option.

#### **6.5 Option 5: Status quo, with an additional Wairarapa member**

This option would provide a second member for the Wairarapa Constituency. The Wairarapa Constituency was represented by two members from 1989 to 2007.

In its 2007 determination, which reduced the representation of the Wairarapa Constituency to one member, the LGC stated:

*After considering the arguments put to us, we are not convinced there is a compelling argument for an exception to the +/-10% rule in respect of the Wairarapa Constituency. We accept the Wairarapa Constituency is a large constituency as are other constituencies across the country.*

In 2017 the LGC addressed the representation of the Wairarapa Constituency in its *Deliberation on the Wellington Reorganisation Draft Proposal* document (15 March 2017). At paragraph 181, the LGC states:

*During our engagement with the existing Wairarapa councils over the past three years, we received the strong message that regional council decision-making was very important to the Wairarapa community. Wairarapa councillors were concerned that the Wairarapa has only one representative on the regional council and therefore the Wairarapa is not sufficiently represented. Given the Wellington region's population spread, the Local Electoral Act does not allow for another Wairarapa regional councillor.*

#### **6.6 Option 6: The inclusion of the Paekakariki Hill and Pukerua Bay area units in the Kapiti Coast Constituency**

Councillors requested that this option be developed to determine whether the inclusion of the Paekakariki Hill and Pukerua Bay area units in the Kapiti Coast Constituency would provide that constituency with a statistical entitlement to two members.

## **7. Te Reo names for constituencies**

At the Council workshop on 21 June 2018 Councillors requested the Council Chair to engage with Ara Tahi on proposed Te Reo or bilingual names for the Council's constituencies.

At its meeting on 10 July 2018 Ara Tahi recommended that GWRC invite Port Nicholson Block Settlement Trust (PNBST) and Ngāti Toa to bring forward proposed Te Reo names for the current Lower Hutt, Upper Hutt and Wellington constituencies to enable those constituencies to have dual (Māori – English) names, and for GWRC to seek the views of Te Whakaminenga o Kāpiti (Kapiti Coast District's Council's partnership body with Te Āti Awa ki Whakarongotai, Ngāti Raukawa ki te Tonga and Ngāti Toarangatira) on the name of the Kapiti Coast Constituency.

At the time of writing this report a recommendation from PNBST and Ngāti Toa on dual names has yet to be received. Te Whakaminenga o Kāpiti has recommended that the Kapiti Coast Constituency be renamed as "Kāpiti Constituency". Officers will provide an update on any further information received at the meeting.

## **8. Next steps**

Once the Council has made a decision on its initial representation proposal for the 2019 elections, the proposal will be publicly notified in the Region's main newspapers and the public will have the opportunity to make submissions on the Council's initial proposal.

As mentioned earlier in this report, it is proposed that a committee be established to consider and hear all submissions on the proposed representation arrangements. The committee will then make a recommendation to the Council on the shape of its final representation proposal.

If any appeals against and/or objections to the Council's final representation proposal are received, or the Council's final proposal does not meet the requirements of the LEA regarding fair representation, then the final proposal must be referred to the LGC for determination.

## **9. Communication**

In addition to the public notification of the Council's initial representation proposal, the following organisations will be informed of the Council's initial representation proposal in accordance with the requirements of the LEA:

- Each territorial authority in the Wellington Region
- LGC
- Surveyor-General
- Government Statistician
- Remuneration Authority.

## **10. Consideration of climate change**

The matters requiring decision in this report have been considered by officers in accordance with the process set out in the GWRC Climate Change Consideration Guide.

### **10.1 Mitigation assessment**

*Mitigation assessments are concerned with the effect of the matter on the climate (i.e. the greenhouse gas emissions generated or removed from the atmosphere as a consequence of the matter) and the actions taken to reduce, neutralise or enhance that effect.*

Officers have considered the effect of the matter on the climate. Officers recommend that the will have no effect.

Officers note that the matter does not affect the Council's interests in the Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS) or the Permanent Forest Sink Initiative (PFSI)

### **10.2 Adaptation assessment**

*Adaptation assessments relate to the impacts of climate change (e.g. sea level rise or an increase in extreme weather events), and the actions taken to address or avoid those impacts.*

Officers have considered the impacts of climate change in relation to the matter. Officers recommend that climate change has no bearing on the matter.

## **11. The decision-making process and significance**

Officers recognise that the matters referenced in this report may have a high degree of importance to affected or interested parties.

### **11.1 Significance of the decision**

The decision-making process is explicitly prescribed for by the LEA. The LEA provides that the Council's initial representation proposal shall be subject to public consultation, and that the Council must consider the matters that were raised in the consultation, in resolving its final proposal.

### **11.2 Engagement**

Engagement on the matters contained in this report aligns with the level of significance assessed. Informal non-statutory consultation has been undertaken; the information gained from that process is set out in section 4.2.4 and Attachment 5.

## **12. Recommendations**

*That the Council:*

- 1. Receives the report.*
- 2. Notes the content of the report.*
- 3. EITHER:*



*Agrees that the six options outlined in section 4.1 of this report represent the range of reasonably practicable options for consideration.*

*Or:*

*Identifies any further options for consideration.*

4. *Notes that any resolution to change the existing representation arrangements must include an explanation for the reasons for the proposed change.*
5. *Resolves its initial representation proposal for the 2019 triennial elections, by specifying:*
  - a. *the proposed number of constituencies*
  - b. *the proposed name and the proposed boundaries of each constituency*
  - c. *the number of members proposed to be elected by the electors of each constituency.*
6. *Resolves to establish the Representation Review 2018 Hearing Committee and adopts the terms of reference for the Committee, as set out in Attachment 3 to this report.*
7. *Appoints Crs Blakeley, Brash, Donaldson, Gaylor, Kedgley, Laban, Laidlaw, Lamason, McKinnon, Ogden, Ponter, Staples and Swain to the Committee and appoints Cr Donaldson as Chair.*

Report prepared by:

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Report approved by:

**Luke Troy**  
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- Attachment 1:** Legislative requirements and statutory framework for local authority representation reviews
- Attachment 2:** Key factors for consideration
- Attachment 3:** Draft Terms of Reference for the Representation Review 2018 Hearing Committee
- Attachment 4:** Statistical information for options of total Council membership
- Attachment 5:** Feedback received through non-statutory consultation

## Legislative requirements and statutory framework for local authority representation reviews

The Local Electoral Act 2001 (LEA) provides the legislative framework for the Council's representation review. The Council must also be aware of relevant provisions in the Local Government Act 2002 (LGA) when making decisions.

### 1. Local Electoral Act 2001

The Council is required, under section 19I of the LEA, to review and determine, at least once every six years, the representation arrangements for the election of its members.

The review requires the Council to decide:

- a. The proposed number of constituencies
- b. The proposed name and boundaries of each constituency
- c. The number of members proposed to be elected by the electors of each constituency.

There is no option of 'at large' elections for the Council. In accordance with section 19E of the LEA, each constituency must elect at least one member.

### 2. Local Government Act 2002

In preparing for and carrying out representation reviews, the Council must keep in mind the following principles set out in section 14 of the LGA:

- (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).*

### 3. Further considerations

Finally, Council decision-making should be consistent with administrative law principles and in accordance with legislation (i.e. give reasons for the decisions made), reasonable (final decisions made in light of submissions received), and fair.

Further information on the legislative requirements, together with identifying factors and considerations for local authorities to take into account when identifying reviews of their representation arrangements, are discussed in the Local Government Commission's *Guidelines for local authorities undertaking representation reviews* which can be accessed at <http://www.lgc.govt.nz/assets/Uploads/Representation-Review-Guidelines-2017-a.pdf>.

## Key factors for consideration

The Council must carefully consider the following three key factors when determining its representation proposal:

- Communities of interest
- Effective representation
- Fair representation.

### 1. Communities of interest

The Council must ensure that the election of its members provides effective representation of the community, or communities of interest, within the Wellington Region.

The term “community of interest” is not defined by statute. It is a term that can mean different things to different people, depending on an individual or group’s perspective. Giving proper consideration to defining local communities of interest is, however, an essential part of the representation review process. It is a necessary precursor to determining effective representation.

Communities of interest may alter over time. Local authorities need to give careful attention to identifying current communities of interest within their district or region when undertaking representation reviews.

In a general sense, the Local Government Commission’s view of community interest is the area to which one feels a sense of belonging and to which one looks to for social, service and economic support. Geographic features and the roading network can affect the sense of belonging to an area. A community of interest can often be identified by access to the goods and services needed for ordinary everyday existence.

A community of interest usually has a number of defining characteristics, which may include:

- A sense of community identity and belonging
- Similarities in the demographic, socio-economic and/or ethnic characteristics of the residents of a community
- Similarities in economic activities
- Dependence on shared facilities in an area, including schools, recreational and cultural facilities, and retail outlets
- Physical and topographical features



- The history of the area
- Transport and communication links.

For a regional council, factors aligned to regional council functions may also be relevant, for example: water catchments, public transport networks, pest management areas, and river rating districts.

## **2. Effective and fair representation**

The number and boundaries of constituencies must provide effective representation of communities of interest within the region. Constituency boundaries must coincide with the boundaries of the current statistical meshblock areas as determined by Statistics New Zealand and, so far as is practicable, constituency boundaries must coincide with the boundaries of one or more territorial authority districts or the boundaries of wards. The Council is required to use the most up to date population figures when carrying out its review and these are the figures on which the fairness criteria must be based.

The Local Electoral Act 2001 (LEA) states that for representation to be considered fair the number of members is calculated by having regard to the population of every constituency within the region. The population of each constituency divided by the number of members to be elected in that constituency must not be more than 10% greater or smaller than the population of the region divided by the total number of elected members; this is commonly referred to as the “+/- 10% rule”.

However, the requirement for effective representation of communities of interest may in some cases override the population based calculations carried out under fair representation. Under section 19V(3) of the LEA, the Council may only depart from the population formula required for fair representation where it is necessary to do so to ensure the effective representation of communities of interest. A decision by the Council not to comply with the population formula must be referred to the Local Government Commission (LGC) for determination.

Questions relating to accessibility, size, and configuration of an area also should be considered in determining effective representation, for example:

- Would the population have reasonable access to its elected member, and vice versa?
- Would elected members be able to effectively represent the views of their constituency?
- Would elected members be able to attend public meetings throughout their area, and provide reasonable opportunities for their constituents to have face to face meetings?



## **Terms of Reference for the Representation Review 2018 Hearing Committee**

### **1. Membership**

The membership of the Representation Review 2018 Hearing Committee shall be made up of the following members of the Greater Wellington Regional Council: Crs Blakeley, Brash, Donaldson (Committee Chair), Gaylor, Kedgley, Laban, Laidlaw, Lamason, McKinnon, Ogden, Ponter, Staples, and Swain.

The quorum is seven members.

### **2. Meeting procedures**

All members have equal speaking and voting rights (one per member).

Meetings will be open to the public, except where there are grounds to exclude the public in terms of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.

The Greater Wellington Regional Council Standing Orders apply.

### **3. Purpose**

The purpose of the Representation Review 2018 Hearing Committee is to aid the Council in reviewing its representation arrangements under section 19I of the Local Electoral Act 2001 in time for the Greater Wellington Regional Council's 2019 triennial election.

### **4. Powers**

The Committee has the power to:

- (1) Consider any written submissions the Council receives on its proposed representation arrangements and oral presentations relating to the written submissions.
- (2) Once submissions have been considered, make recommendations to the Council on what, if any, amendments should be made to the Council's proposed representation arrangements. The report containing these recommendations should include reasons for any proposed amendments to the Council's initial representation proposal and for the rejection of any submissions.

### **5. Responsibilities**

The Committee shall ensure that:

- The hearing and consideration process is carried out in a way that is effective and timely
- Submitters are provided with the best possible opportunity to be heard in support of their submission
- Committee members receive submissions with an open mind and give due consideration to each submission
- The decision-making process is robust and transparent and the summary of the consultation process adequately, fairly and demonstrably reflects the submitters' comments
- The process and advice that the Committee provides to the Council is consistent with the legislative requirements of the Local Electoral Act 2001.

## **6. Duration of Committee**

The Committee is deemed to be dissolved once the representation arrangements have been finalised for the Greater Wellington Regional Council's 2019 triennial election.

## Attachment 4 to Report 18.319

**Statistical information for representation options**

The alteration to the area of the Tawa Community, as determined by the Local Government Commission in 2015 and as referenced in Report 18.183, has been incorporated into each option detailed below.

**Option 1 – status quo**

Applying the 30 June 2017 estimates of usually resident population to the current constituencies and membership produces the following information:

| Constituencies | Population     | Percentage of region's population | Number of councillors per constituency | Population per councillor | Deviation from the region average population per councillor (39,531) | Percentage deviation from the region average population per councillor |
|----------------|----------------|-----------------------------------|--|---------------------------|--|--|
| Kapiti Coast   | 52,700         | 10.2                              | 1                                      | 52,700                    | +13,169  | +33.2  |
| Porirua-Tawa   | 71,300         | 13.9                              | 2                                      | 35,650                    | -3,881   | -9.8   |
| Wellington     | 197,500        | 38.4                              | 5                                      | 39,500                    | -31  | -0.1   |
| Lower Hutt     | 104,700        | 20.4                              | 3                                      | 34,900                    | -4,631   | -11.7  |
| Upper Hutt     | 43,200         | 8.4                               | 1                                      | 43,200                    | +3,669   | +9.3   |
| Wairarapa      | 44,500         | 8.7                               | 1                                      | 44,500                    | +4,969   | +12.6  |
| <b>TOTAL</b>   | <b>513,900</b> | <b>100.00</b>                     | <b>13</b>                              | <b>39,531</b>             |  |  |

If these constituencies were retained but the total membership of the Council was changed then the situation would be as follows:

| Constituencies | 10 members                             |   | 11 members                             |   | 12 members                             |   | 14 members                             |   |
|----------------|--|---|--|---|--|---|--|---|
|                | Number of councillors per constituency | Percentage deviation from the region average population per councillor (51,390) | Number of councillors per constituency | Percentage deviation from the region average population per councillor (46,718) | Number of councillors per constituency | Percentage deviation from the region average population per councillor (42,825) | Number of councillors per constituency | Percentage deviation from the region average population per councillor (36,707) |
| Kapiti Coast   | 1                                      | +2.6  | 1                                      | +12.8   | 1                                      | +23.1   | 2                                      | -28.2   |
| Porirua-Tawa   | 1                                      | +38.7   | 2                                      | -23.7   | 2                                      | -16.8   | 2                                      | -2.9  |
| Wellington     | 4                                      | -3.9  | 4                                      | +5.7  | 5                                      | -7.8  | 5                                      | +7.6  |
| Lower Hutt     | 2                                      | +1.9  | 2                                      | +12.1   | 2                                      | +22.2   | 3                                      | -4.9  |
| Upper Hutt     | 1                                      | -15.9   | 1                                      | -7.5  | 1                                      | +0.9  | 1                                      | +17.7   |
| Wairarapa      | 1                                      | -13.4   | 1                                      | -4.8  | 1                                      | +3.9  | 1                                      | +21.2   |

Under this scenario a Council of 11 members achieves the highest level of compliance with the +/-10% rule.



## Option 2 – Constituencies based on territorial authority boundaries<sup>1</sup>

Under this scenario the area of the Tawa Community (population: 15,200) would revert to falling within the Wellington Constituency.

| Constituencies | Population     | Percentage of region's population | Number of councillors per constituency | Population per councillor | Deviation from the region average population per councillor (39,531) | Percentage deviation from the region average population per councillor |
|----------------|----------------|-----------------------------------|--|---------------------------|--|--|
| Kapiti Coast   | 52,700         | 10.2                              | 1                                      | 52,700                    | +13,169  | +33.3  |
| Porirua        | 56,100         | 10.9                              | 2                                      | 28,050                    | -11,481  | -29.0  |
| Wellington     | 212,700        | 41.4                              | 5                                      | 42,540                    | +3,009   | +7.6   |
| Lower Hutt     | 104,700        | 20.4                              | 3                                      | 34,900                    | -4,631   | -11.7  |
| Upper Hutt     | 43,200         | 8.4                               | 1                                      | 43,200                    | +3,669   | +9.3   |
| Wairarapa      | 44,500         | 8.7                               | 1                                      | 44,500                    | +4,969   | +12.6  |
| <b>TOTAL</b>   | <b>513,900</b> | <b>100.00</b>                     | <b>13</b>                              | <b>39,531</b>             |  |  |

If these constituencies were applied but the total population of the Council were altered then the situation would be as follows:

| Constituencies | 10 members                             |   |  | 11 members                             |   |  | 12 members                             |   |  | 14 members  |  |   |
|----------------|--|---|--|--|---|--|--|---|--|---|--|---|
|                | Number of councillors per constituency | Percentage deviation from the region average population per councillor (51,390) | Number of councillors per constituency | Number of councillors per constituency | Percentage deviation from the region average population per councillor (46,718) | Number of councillors per constituency | Number of councillors per constituency | Percentage deviation from the region average population per councillor (42,825) | Number of councillors per constituency | Percentage deviation from the region average population per councillor (36,707) | Number of councillors per constituency | Percentage deviation from the region average population per councillor (36,707) |
| Kapiti Coast   | 1                                      | +2.6  | 1                                      | 1                                      | +12.8   | 1                                      | 1                                      | +23.1   | 1                                      | +43.6   | 1                                      | +43.6   |
| Porirua        | 1                                      | +9.2  | 1                                      | 1                                      | +20.1   | 1                                      | 1                                      | +31.0   | 2                                      | -23.6   | 2                                      | -23.6   |
| Wellington     | 4                                      | +3.5  | 5                                      | 5                                      | -8.9  | 5                                      | 5                                      | -0.1  | 6                                      | -3.4  | 6                                      | -3.4  |
| Lower Hutt     | 2                                      | +1.9  | 2                                      | 2                                      | +12.1   | 3                                      | 3                                      | -18.5   | 3                                      | -4.9  | 3                                      | -4.9  |
| Upper Hutt     | 1                                      | -15.9   | 1                                      | 1                                      | -7.5  | 1                                      | 1                                      | +0.9  | 1                                      | +17.7   | 1                                      | +17.7   |
| Wairarapa      | 1                                      | -13.4   | 1                                      | 1                                      | -4.8  | 1                                      | 1                                      | +3.9  | 1                                      | +21.2   | 1                                      | +21.2   |

Overall, this scenario exhibits a lower level of compliance with the +/- 10% rule, when compared with Scenario 1.

<sup>1</sup> The Wairarapa Constituency includes that part of the Tararua District that falls within the Wellington Region.

### Option 3 – a merged constituency model

This model is based on the Council's initial proposal for the 2007 elections.

| Constituencies   | Population     | Percentage of region's population | Number of councillors per constituency | Population per councillor | Deviation from the region average population per councillor (39,531) | Percentage deviation from the region average population per councillor |
|------------------|----------------|-----------------------------------|--|---------------------------|--|--|
| Porirua - Kapiti | 108,800        | 21.1                              | 3                                      | 36,267                    | -53  | -8.3   |
| Wellington       | 212,700        | 41.4                              | 5                                      | 42,540                    | +3,009   | +7.6   |
| Hutt Valley      | 147,900        | 28.8                              | 4                                      | 36,975                    | -2,556   | -6.5   |
| Wairarapa        | 44,500         | 8.7                               | 1                                      | 44,500                    | +1,069   | +12.6  |
| <b>TOTAL</b>     | <b>513,900</b> | <b>100.00</b>                     | <b>13</b>                              | <b>39,531</b>             |  |  |

This 13 member proposal achieves good levels of compliance with the +/-10% rule (under any 13 member scenario the Wairarapa Constituency is now non-compliant with the +/-10% rule due to its increased share of the Wellington Region's population since the 2006 and 2012 reviews).

The application of this model to alternative total membership numbers provides the following information:

| Constituencies   | 10 members                             |   | 11 members                             |   | 12 members                             |   | 14 members                             |   |
|------------------|--|---|--|---|--|---|--|---|
|                  | Number of councillors per constituency | Percentage deviation from the region average population per councillor (51,390) | Number of councillors per constituency | Percentage deviation from the region average population per councillor (46,718) | Number of councillors per constituency | Percentage deviation from the region average population per councillor (42,825) | Number of councillors per constituency | Percentage deviation from the region average population per councillor (36,707) |
| Porirua - Kapiti | 2                                      | +5.9  | 2                                      | +16.4   | 2                                      | +27.0   | 3                                      | -1.2  |
| Wellington       | 4                                      | +3.5  | 5                                      | -8.9  | 5                                      | -0.7  | 6                                      | -3.4  |
| Hutt Valley      | 3                                      | -4.1  | 3                                      | +5.5  | 4                                      | -13.7   | 4                                      | +7.3  |
| Wairarapa        | 1                                      | -13.4   | 1                                      | -4.8  | 1                                      | +3.9  | 1                                      | +21.2   |

The alternative total membership examples do not achieve compliance with the +/- 10% rule.

**Option 4 – a merged constituency model (with Tawa included in the same constituency as Porirua and Kapiti Coast)**

This model is similar to Scenario 3, with the exception that Tawa is included in the same constituency as Porirua and Kapiti Coast.

| Constituencies           | Population     | Percentage of region's population | Number of councillors per constituency | Population per councillor | Deviation from the region average population per councillor (39,531) | Percentage deviation from the region average population per councillor |
|--------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------------|--|---------------------------|--|--|
| Porirua, Tawa and Kapiti | 124,000        | 24.1                              | 3                                      | 41,333                    | +1,802   | +4.6   |
| Wellington               | 197,500        | 38.4                              | 5                                      | 39,500                    | -31  | -0.1   |
| Hutt Valley              | 147,900        | 28.8                              | 4                                      | 36,975                    | -2,556   | -6.5   |
| Wairarapa                | 44,500         | 8.7                               | 1                                      | 44,500                    | +4,969   | +12.6  |
| <b>TOTAL</b>             | <b>513,900</b> | <b>100.00</b>                     | <b>13</b>                              | <b>39,531</b>             |  |  |

This 13 member proposal achieves a greater degree of fairness (electoral equality per member) than the 13 member option of Scenario 3.

The application of this model to alternative total membership numbers provides the following information:

| Constituencies           | 10 members                             |   | 11 members                             |   | 12 members                             |   | 14 members                             |   |
|--------------------------|--|---|--|---|--|---|--|---|
|                          | Number of councillors per constituency | Percentage deviation from the region average population per councillor (51,390) | Number of councillors per constituency | Percentage deviation from the region average population per councillor (46,718) | Number of councillors per constituency | Percentage deviation from the region average population per councillor (42,825) | Number of councillors per constituency | Percentage deviation from the region average population per councillor (36,707) |
| Porirua, Tawa and Kapiti | 2                                      | +20.7   | 3                                      | -11.5   | 3                                      | -3.5  | 4                                      | -15.6   |
| Wellington               | 4                                      | -3.9  | 4                                      | +5.7  | 5                                      | -7.8  | 5                                      | +7.6  |
| Hutt Valley              | 3                                      | -4.1  | 3                                      | +5.5  | 3                                      | +15.1   | 4                                      | +0.7  |
| Wairarapa                | 1                                      | -13.4   | 1                                      | -4.8  | 1                                      | +3.9  | 1                                      | +21.2   |

The alternative total membership examples do not achieve compliance with the +/- 10% rule.

### Option 5 – the addition of a second Wairarapa member to the current representation arrangements

This model is based on Option 1, with the addition of a second Wairarapa member.

| Constituencies | Population     | Percentage of region's population | Number of councillors per constituency | Population per councillor | Deviation from the region average population per councillor (36,707) | Percentage deviation from the region average population per councillor |
|----------------|----------------|-----------------------------------|--|---------------------------|--|--|
| Kapiti Coast   | 52,700         | 10.2                              | 1                                      | 52,700                    | +15,993  | +43.6  |
| Porirua-Tawa   | 71,300         | 13.9                              | 2                                      | 35,650                    | -1,057   | -2.9   |
| Wellington     | 197,500        | 38.4                              | 5                                      | 39,500                    | +2,793   | +7.6   |
| Lower Hutt     | 104,700        | 20.4                              | 3                                      | 34,900                    | -1,807   | -4.9   |
| Upper Hutt     | 43,200         | 8.4                               | 1                                      | 43,200                    | +6,493   | +17.7  |
| Wairarapa      | 44,500         | 8.7                               | 2                                      | 22,250                    | -14,457  | -39.4  |
| <b>TOTAL</b>   | <b>513,900</b> | <b>100.00</b>                     | <b>14</b>                              | <b>36,707</b>             |  |  |



# **Option 6 – the inclusion of the Paekakariki Hill and Pukerua Bay area units in the Kapiti Coast Constituency**

| Constituencies  | Population | Percentage of the region's population | 13 members                             |   | 14 members                             |   |
|---|------------|---------------------------------------|--|---|--|---|
|   |            |                                       | Number of councillors per constituency | Percentage deviation from the region average population per councillor (39,531) | Number of councillors per constituency | Percentage deviation from the region average population per councillor (36,707) |
| TOTAL   | 513,900    | 100%                                  |  |   |  |   |
| Kapiti Coast, plus Pukerua Bay and Paekakariki Hill area units  | 54,810     | 10.7                                  | 1                                      | +38.7   | 2                                      | -25.3   |
| Porirua-Tawa, minus Pukerua Bay and Paekakariki Hill area units | 69,190     | 13.5                                  | 2                                      | -12.5   | 2                                      | -5.8  |
| Wellington  | 197,500    | 38.4                                  | 5                                      | 0.0   | 5                                      | +7.6  |
| Lower Hutt  | 104,700    | 20.4                                  | 3                                      | -11.7   | 3                                      | -4.9  |
| Upper Hutt  | 43,200     | 8.4                                   | 1                                      | +9.3  | 1                                      | +17.7   |
| Wairarapa   | 44,500     | 8.7                                   | 1                                      | +12.6   | 1                                      | +21.2   |

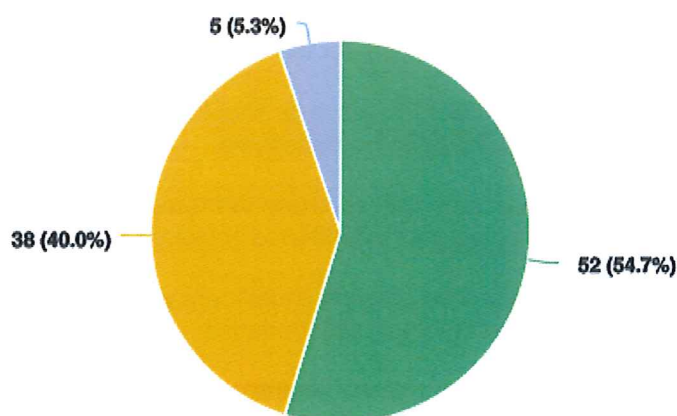
The population of the Paekakariki Hill area unit is 150.

The population of the Pukerua Bay area unit is 1960.



## Feedback received through non-statutory consultation

**GWRC currently has six constituencies. Do you consider that the current number of constituencies provides effective representation for communities of interest?**



### Question options

● Yes
 ● No
 ● I don't know

### Comments<sup>1</sup> regarding more representation:

The Wairarapa constituency is too large and should be split into a few smaller ones to help better represent the communities.

It is wrong that the biggest geographical region, Wairarapa has only one rep

Featherston is poorly represented under south wairarapa district council

Urban/rural balance limited as is accessibility. Expecting the single Wairarapa representative to be effective in a forum with overwhelmingly urban dwellers is unreasonable

I think that Wairarapa has a different need/ outlook, and should have our own council rather than be part of Greater Wellington

As Wainuiomata is growing larger, I feel it should have its own which would include Eastbourne.

I'd prefer 1 representative per 1,000 people

Wellington is so diverse that 6 simple constituencies does not seem to be the right number. You have areas with huge differences in geography, socioeconomics and culture.

<sup>1</sup> The comments detailed in this section are as they were provided. They have not been edited for spelling or relevance.

The 3 smallest councillor constituencies are the 3 most northern/outermost. Their population bases only allow for minimal councillor representation even though some of the land masses are larger and more widespread, so the northern/outermost suburbs aren't necessarily getting enough say in things.

**Comments regarding less representation:**

To many to provide effective governance without geopolitical interference

Far to many people - the regional council is just a shared service - this should be directly controlled by mayors - it is an unnecessary overhead

There are too many councillors for the small overall population.

The number of Councillors for an area should be based on population. Too many countries ncillots abd it'll get too expensive.

Other than the geographically-separate Wairarapa, it is hard to see the justification for the rest not to be amalgamated (despite obvious parochial interests)

The Hutt Valley should be a single constituency. The services GWRC provides to the Hutt valley are not defined to TA boundaries.

Wellington City has too much representation.

**Other comments:**

Very little information comes back to the communities.

What I do know is that there are groups that have other representations e.g. the Tawa Region, Johnsonville tried to set one up. I am close to both Tawa and Johnsonville yet my subdivision can not join either of these groups. This seems to disadvantage other subdivisions, including my own. This is a factor that I think should be reviewed.

I'm no geographical expert but these boundaries seem sensible.

Geographically, the 6 constituencies are well defined and representable.

Number of constituencies is irrelevant, overall representation and ability to influence is.

I can only attest to the Wellington CBD district as that is where I reside and have spent all my time living in Wellington.

Make sense to base it on territorial authority areas.

You should ask experts qualified in this field and not the general public.

Make te horo free

I don't even know who my local representative is. I also note that there are no Māori constituencies, which I believe are very important to local/regional government.

Representation is uneven, given the number of people represented by one Councillor

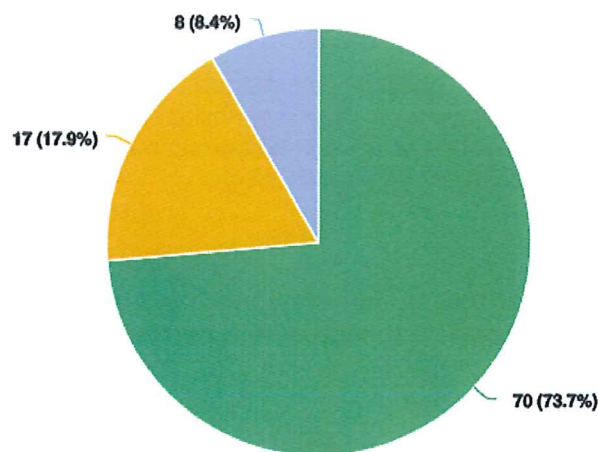
We need more to be effective. We also need at least 3 Maori constituencies.

It would be more helpful if you listed the constituencies

Appalled at bus changeover process especially treatment of drivers. Have spoken to drivers who will be employed with the new contract and have had to attend training on

their days off with the previous contractor. Some have not had any time off for over a month. Bus drivers implement the public transport face of sustainability. Who do you think helps people carry out the day to day tasks to implement the rights we fought so hard for? Give them a break and treat them with some respect.

**Do you consider that the current name of each constituency and the boundaries of each constituency are clear and appropriate for representation purposes?**



**Question options**

● Yes ● No ● I don't know

**Comments regarding Te Reo:**

Use Te Reo as well

I think the constituencies could also, or solely be in Te Reo

Perhaps add some more Te Reo to the naming system (eg, Te Whanganui a Tara rather than Wellington).

Maori names essential

Please provide Maori names

**Other comments:**

At the end of the day it does not matter what region / boundary you come under it is whether you have active members of the council in your region.

Otaki should BOT be part of greater Wellington

An irrelevant question

Refer previous comment.

I think Tawa should logically be in Porirua and not Wellington City. Porirua and Tawa are pretty much a continuum of businesses and residential areas, whereas the gorge south of Takapu Rd effectively separates Tawa from the rest of Wellington.



You should ask experts qualified in this field and not the general public.

Far to many - the whole Wairarapa only has 1 so cull cull cull and put our rates down

There are too many distinctions for areas that are no longer different

The question would be better if you provided the names

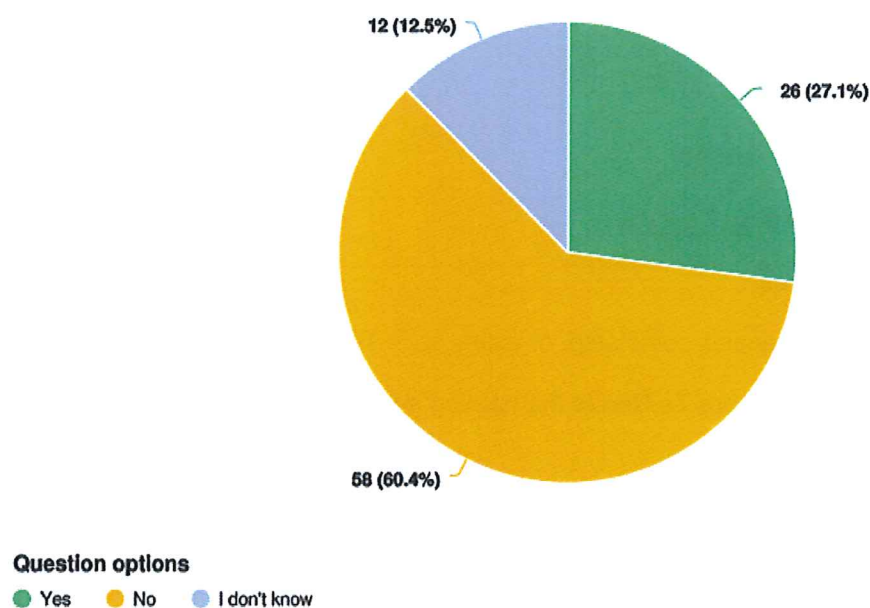
No, as above for the Hutt Valley.

I think that there is a need to have more councillors on the wairarapa and kapiti districts. Also think that Upper Hutt and wairarapa should be one big section with two councillors

This is just not an issue. It's what they actually do that counts.

The 3 smallest councillor constituencies are the 3 most northern/outermost. Their population bases only allow for minimal councillor representation even though some of the land masses are larger and more widespread, so the northern/outermost suburbs aren't necessarily getting enough say in things.

**Do you consider that the number of councillors currently elected from each constituency is appropriate to provide fair representation for electors in each constituency?**



**Comments:**

The Wairarapa is a large geographic area despite having a low population, and so it would make sense to have two councillors in order to better provide representation to areas outside Masterton. (E.g. a North Wairarapa councillor and a South Wairarapa councillor).

I think Kapiti and Wairarapa each need an extra counciler

As stated Wairarapa as such a masive geographical area and diverse population needs more representation

The Wairarapa needs at least two.



I do not know the population numbers for each region - the Wairarapa region looks very big and I would have no idea how many people cover that region.

I don't recall ever seeing the overall data as appears on the post. I was personally rather shocked really. Haven't worked out if representation is by land mass or population. All 6 have individual geographical strengths / weaknesses. Re the number of Councillors: In my personal opinion - each constituency should have the same number of councillors. As it stands - my head tells me that the areas with more representatives have more voting power over the less represented areas.

Featherston needs better representation

Wairarapa has bigger area needs more

See above re Wairarapa.

Believe that being a growing area within the Wellington Region, Kapiti Coast should get a second Councillor especially as it has the highest population per Councillor.

To many. It dilutes the ability to create effective Wellington wide strategy

General feeling is that representatives per population seems like it would be fair but ultimately it is more about how global issues are considered, i.e. whether collaboratively or selfishly. Therefore individual representation could become irrelevant. Goal should be for global representation to moderate.

I think given Kapiti's growing population we should have 2 councillors

Number of councillors should be based on a combination of population and constituency land area.

Upper Hutt and Kapiti should have 2 representatives each. Even if this might seem like over-representation in population terms (and I'm not saying I think it would be over-representation), the increased representation is justified by the distinctive nature of their needs and contributions to the overall good of Greater Wellington Region.

You should ask experts qualified in this field and not the general public.

Far too many representing Wellington

Consistently too many. Growth in Kapiti and Wairarapa also not reflected based on numbers provided.

Numbers should be based on population. Rural areas already have more MPs per head of population than the city constituencies.

Each should only have 1 or 2 but should be equal for all. 1 for all of Wairarapa but 5 for Wellington city is very unbalanced... whether or not this is population-based or some other criteria is used?

Is obvious that 70 percent of the land mass needs more than 1 vote

Lower Hutt doesn't need three Councillors. Most of the time they are invisible. Three councillors would be sufficient for the entire Hutt Valley.

Wairarapa for its size should have at least two representatives

Wellington has too many Hutt should be increased due to the population size Wairarapa should increase due to the diversity of the large area - rural, lifestyle and suburban

Why do Wellington and Lower Hutt far out weigh all other areas regardless of having similar or even smaller numbers, no real justification to have 8 in 2 areas, apart from them having the biggest say for their area and forget about the rest of the region

I feel that Upper Hutt is under represented with only one councillor

Kapiti and Wairarapa underrepresented

Too many representatives from Wellington City. When something needs to be paid for the region is billed as a whole. However, when regional interests, such as the Basin flyover and double tunnels at Victoria and the Terrace, then Wellington city interests block the regional needs. Wellington City and its amenities, hospital, airport, government and universities, are supported by the nation and the region and should be accessible, by car ,for all regional and national citizens.

Wairarapa needs another councillor for a more balanced collective.

The more we have the more it costs....to expensive already

We need many more councillors

At least 2 councillors for each constituency would be better.

There is a massive disparity between average population per Councillor and this needs review to balance the representation more effectively.

No city or district should have more than one Councillor

Wellington City has too many votes and influence. Making the Whole region pay for the stupid stadium and now trying to get out of paying for flood protection. Even with the changing in bus services which has put Hutt Valley services at threat, while increasing services in Wellington city. Hutt Valley should be it's own Regional council and charge Wellington for water at commercial rates and they can keep Te papa.

Wairarapa requires greater representation considering the significant environmental issues in this part of the region.

Councillors need to be represented and so do the districts

It would be more helpful if you listed the levels of representation per constituency

The 3 smallest councillor constituencies are the 3 most northern/outermost. Their population bases only allow for minimal councillor representation even though some of the land masses are larger and more widespread, so the northern/outermost suburbs aren't necessarily getting enough say in things.

I find they have a low profile. There is only one I am actively familiar with (Jenny brash)

**If you have any suggestions for changes to GWRC's current representation arrangements, please set them out below.**

There should be a minimum of 3 councillors per a constituency for there to be better representation.

I would like to see the arrangements managed by an independent panel rather than the current elected member that way the process looks transparent and fair

If wairarapa has to belong to Germany then needs greater representation



I would perhaps prefer to see shared Councillors across the sub regions e.g. I have more to do with a Councillor than I do with my regional Councillor and I believe some are more willing to take action on points, problems, issues than others. What is the point of having Councillors if they never contact anyone in their region except when they wish to have your vote.

I would have to do my homework to respond to this ;-). Personally, at a guess the Wairarapa has a bad deal. How can ONE Councillor represent such a large area of varying micro-environments?

Better representation for Featherston please

Consider baseline geographical representation and then some councillors 'at large'. Wairarapa has two minimum and then add others to maintain current total. Wellington City does not need 5.

Please consolidate to provide a more cohesive and strategic view

See above. Mechanism to remove partisan thinking to best for region thinking. Treat whole region as one.

Wellington to have 3 and all others to have 2 councillors

I think that you need more so that they can spend more time with the community and seeing and hearing the positive feedback rather than taking calls and emails about complaints

1 elected member per ward with a greater number of wards.

Reduce the population ratio per constituents, thereby increasing the constituents per region

Yes get rid of GWRC have a shared service business and have the mayor accountable - we don't need more elected folk and people like Fran Wilde add no value as they don't listen only need to look at behaviour at public meetings over combining the councils

Reduce Wellington representation to three

Consolidate zones and set out a more clear mandate of its responsibility. Too many areas of concern such as water, earthquake readiness and transport remain problems from ineffectiveness of GWRC

Each should only have 1 or 2 but should be equal for all. 1 for all of Wairarapa but 5 for Wellington city is very unbalanced

Less Councillors overall. They are invisible most of the time.

Number of councillors per ward must be representative of their population % of the greater region. So Wellington City should have vastly more than Carterton for example, not just a few.

Too many for Wellington Kaiti should increase by 2 Wairarapa should increase by 1 due to the diversity of resources and people

2 for Wellington City 1 for Lower Hutt rest as they are

I think Māori seats are very important in local government in NZ.

Would like to see Maori representation on council. Currently very pale male and stale.

2 councillors for Kapiti and Wairarapa respectively

Hutt Valley and Wairarapa should split off from Wellington and form their own regional council.

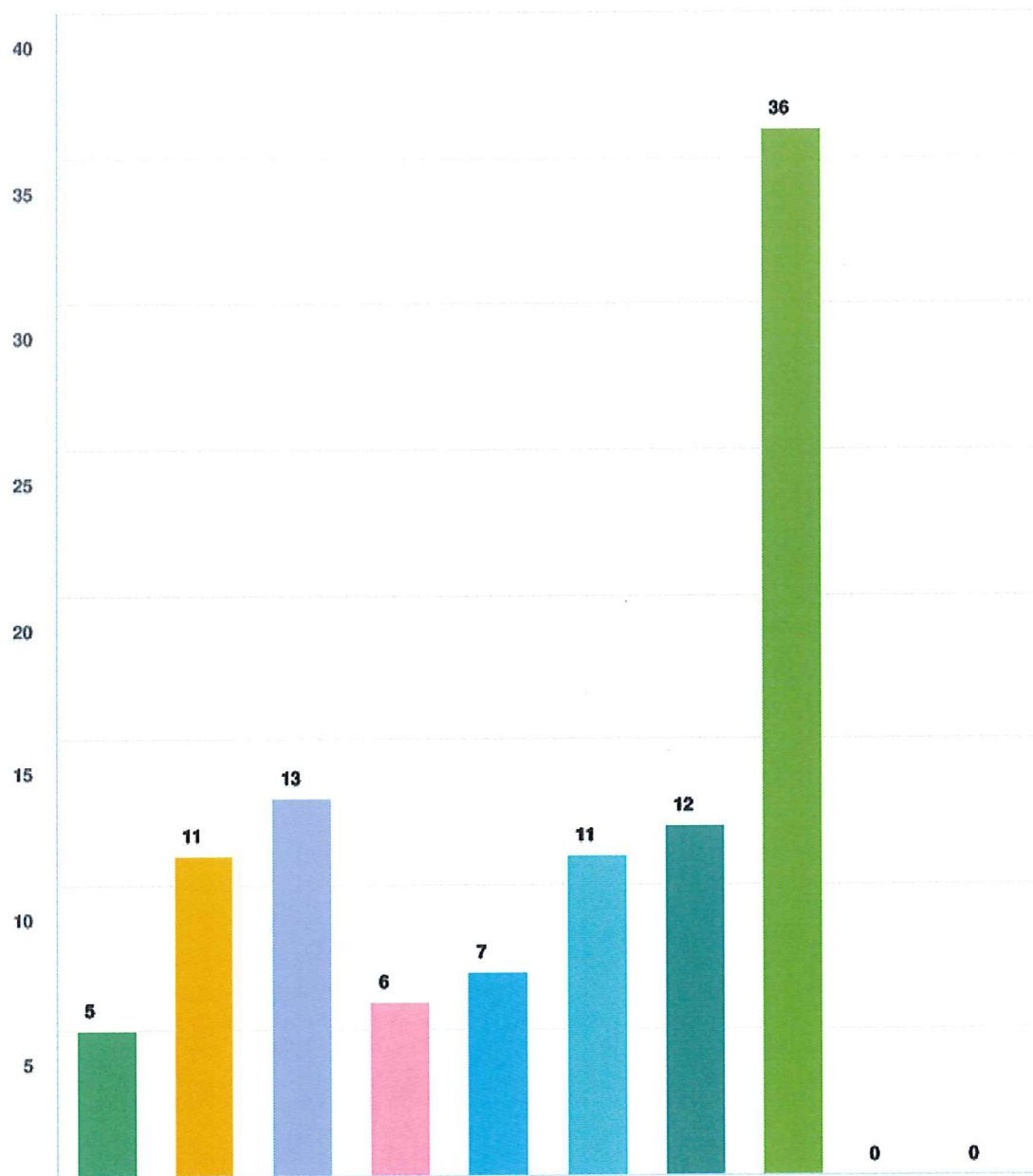
Much more diversity on WRC. Fewer old white men and much more engagement with the voters.

Perhaps a straight 2 councillors per constituency for even representation. Or a different way of dividing the constituencies so there is even representation instead of population based.

I live in the Wellington City northern suburb and feel more aligned to Porirua, than wn city.



**In which city or district of the Wellington Region do you live and/or own property in?**



**Question options**

- Carterton District
 ● Kapiti Coast District
 ● Lower Hutt City
 ● Masterton District
 ● Porirua City
- South Wairarapa District
 ● Upper Hutt City
 ● Wellington City
- That part of Taranaki District within the Wellington Region
 ● None (I am an organisation, or live outside the Wellington Region)



20 September 2018

Representation Review  
Greater Wellington Regional Council  
PO Box 11646, Manners Street  
**WELLINGTON 6142**

Email: [repreview@gw.govt.nz](mailto:repreview@gw.govt.nz)

Dear Francis,

### Proposed representation arrangements for the 2019 local elections

1. Thank you for the opportunity to submit on the proposed representation arrangements for the 2019 local elections. This is our draft submission. The submission is to be finalised by our Council at their meeting on 27 September 2018.
2. Kāpiti Coast District Council (Council) would like to make an oral presentation in support of our submission.
3. Having assessed the proposed option in terms of the requirements for effective and fair representation Council is unable to support the proposed option below:

| <i>Constituency</i>                      | <i>Number of members</i> | <i>Community of interest represented by the constituency</i>  | <i>Population per Councillor<br/>(Average: 39,531)<br/>(+/-10% range from the average:<br/>35,578 to 43,484)</i> |
|--|--------------------------|---|--|
| <i>Pōneke/Wellington</i>                 | <i>5</i>                 | <i>The area of Wellington City, excluding the area of the Tawa Community</i>  | <i>39,500</i>  |
| <i>Porirua-Tawa</i>                      | <i>2</i>                 | <i>The area of Porirua City, and the area of the Tawa Community of Wellington City</i>  | <i>35,650</i>  |
| <i>Kāpiti</i>                            | <i>1</i>                 | <i>The area of the Kapiti Coast District</i>  | <i>52,700</i>  |
| <i>Te Awa Kairangi ki Tai/Lower Hutt</i> | <i>3</i>                 | <i>The area of Lower Hutt City</i>  | <i>34,900</i>  |
| <i>Te Awa Kairangi ki Uta/Upper Hutt</i> | <i>1</i>                 | <i>The area of Upper Hutt City</i>  | <i>43,200</i>  |
| <i>Wairarapa</i>                         | <i>1</i>                 | <i>The area of South Wairarapa District, Carterton District and Masterton District, and that part of Tararua District that falls within the Wellington Region</i> | <i>44,500</i>  |

This proposed option is, we consider, blatantly unfair to the population of the Kāpiti district. The suggested solitary councillor representing a population of 52,700 results in a percentage deviation from the region average population per councillor of +33.2.

| Constituencies | Population | Percentage of region's population | Number of councillors per constituency | Population per councillor | Deviation from the region average population per councillor (39,531) | Percentage deviation from the region average population per councillor |
|----------------|------------|-----------------------------------|--|---------------------------|--|--|
| Kapiti Coast   | 52,700     | 10.2                              | 1                                      | 52,700                    | +13,169  | +33.2  |
| Porirua-Tawa   | 71,300     | 13.9                              | 2                                      | 35,650                    | -3,881   | -9.8   |
| Wellington     | 197,500    | 38.4                              | 5                                      | 39,500                    | -31  | -0.1   |
| Lower Hutt     | 104,700    | 20.4                              | 3                                      | 34,900                    | -4,631   | -11.7  |
| Upper Hutt     | 43,200     | 8.4                               | 1                                      | 43,200                    | +3,669   | +9.3   |
| Wairarapa      | 44,600     | 8.7                               | 1                                      | 44,600                    | +4,969   | +12.6  |
| TOTAL          | 513,900    | 100.00                            | 13                                     | 39,531                    |  |  |

4. We considered an option that was not included in the 6 options considered in the Greater Wellington Regional Council report. That option being the proposal of 2 representatives for Kāpiti, taking the total number of representatives from 13 to 14 for the entire region. However, we assessed this option as equally unfair, in terms of the percentage deviation from the region average population per councillor, as the option currently being proposed by Greater Wellington Regional Council.
5. The preferred option of Kāpiti Coast District Council is Option 3 in Attachment 4 to Report 18.319 that was considered by Greater Wellington Regional Council at its meeting of 16 August 2018. Please note the 'Deviation from the region average population per councillor for Porirua-Kāpiti' and 'Wairarapa' in the table below, from the report, should read as '-3,264' and '+4969' respectively.

| Constituencies   | Population | Percentage of region's population | Number of councillors per constituency | Population per councillor | Deviation from the region average population per councillor (39,531) | Percentage deviation from the region average population per councillor |
|------------------|------------|-----------------------------------|--|---------------------------|--|--|
| Porirua - Kapiti | 108,800    | 21.1                              | 3                                      | 36,267                    | -53  | -8.3   |
| Wellington       | 212,700    | 41.4                              | 5                                      | 42,540                    | +3,009   | +7.6   |
| Hutt Valley      | 147,900    | 28.8                              | 4                                      | 36,975                    | -2,556   | -6.5   |
| Wairarapa        | 44,500     | 8.7                               | 1                                      | 44,500                    | +1,069   | +12.6  |
| TOTAL            | 513,900    | 100.00                            | 13                                     | 39,531                    |  |  |

6. As identified in the Greater Wellington Regional Council report, this proposal achieves good levels of compliance with the +/-10% rule. In terms of the mathematical requirements for fair representation this was one of the two options (*the other being option 4*) considered by GWRC that best meet the requirements for fair representation with a 13 member Council
7. This merged constituency model would provide more effective representation for communities of interest and fairer representation for electors over the current representation arrangements. This option would provide more effective representation for diverse communities through enabling councillors to hear and meet with a wider variety of groups and individuals, and on a more regular basis.
8. This, our preferred option, would enable the workloads of individual councillors to be more effectively managed through councillors being able to share the work involved.
9. In order to reach the proposed representation arrangement offered by option 1 the approach taken by Greater Wellington Regional Council has prioritised a particular consideration of communities of interest while choosing to ignore effective and fair representation.



10. The merged constituency model would also facilitate more effective representation and support looking ahead in terms of the growth in opportunities resulting from the new expressway and the Kāpiti Airport benefitting both the people of the Kāpiti Coast and our Porirua neighbours.
10. We are unsure why some models merge Upper and Lower Hutt, while others do not. Please note that, in our view, either could apply.
11. Thank you once again for the opportunity to submit on the proposed representation arrangements for the 2019 local elections.

Yours sincerely,



Wayne Maxwell  
**CHIEF EXECUTIVE**