



# ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL

## Open Minutes

---

Meeting Date: Thursday 1 August 2024

---

Time: 9.30am – 9.42am

---

Venue Chapman Room  
Level 1, Chapman Pavilion  
McLean Park  
Latham Street  
Napier

---

*Livestreamed via Council's Facebook page*

---

Present **Chair:** Mayor Wise  
**Members:** Deputy Mayor Brosnan, Councillors Boag,  
Browne, Chrystal, Crown, Greig, Mawson, McGrath, Price,  
Simpson [via zoom] and Taylor

---

In Attendance Acting Chief Executive (Jessica Ellerm)  
Executive Director City Strategies (Rachael Bailey)  
Executive Director Infrastructure Services (Russell Bond)  
Executive Director Community Services (Thunes Cloete)  
Manager Strategy and Transformation (Stephanie Murphy)  
Team Leader Governance (Anna Eady)  
Project Manager – Strategy and Transformation (Jane  
McLoughlin)  
Manager Community Strategies (Anne Bradbury)

---

Administration Governance Advisors (Carolyn Hunt and Jemma McDade)

---

## ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL – Open Minutes

---

### TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>Order of Business</b>	<b>Page No.</b>
Karakia.....	3
Apologies .....	3
Conflicts of interest.....	3
Public forum.....	3
Announcements by the Mayor.....	3
Announcements by the management .....	3
Confirmation of minutes .....	3

### Agenda Items

1. Maori Wards Amendment Legislation - Community engagement considerations.....4
-

## ORDER OF BUSINESS

### Karakia

The meeting opened with the Council karakia.

### Apologies

Councillor Tareha was not present at the meeting.

### Conflicts of interest

Nil

### Public forum

Nil

### Announcements by the Mayor

Nil

### Announcements by the management

Nil

### Confirmation of minutes

---

**COUNCIL  
RESOLUTION**

Councillors Greig / Taylor

---

That the Draft Minutes of the Ordinary meeting of Council held on Thursday, 27 June 2024 be confirmed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

---

Carried

---

# AGENDA ITEMS

## 1. MAORI WARDS AMENDMENT LEGISLATION - COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

---

<i>Type of Report:</i>	Legal and Operational
<i>Legal Reference:</i>	Local Electoral Act 2001 & Local Government Act 2002
<i>Document ID:</i>	1775274
<i>Reporting Officer/s &amp; Unit:</i>	Jane McLoughlin, Project Manager - Strategy and Transformation Anna Eady, Team Leader Governance Anne Bradbury, Manager Community Strategies

### 1.1 Purpose of Report

To outline a high-level engagement plan for Council approval, aimed at consulting on whether to revoke or reaffirm the Council's previous decision regarding the establishment of Māori wards for the 2025 local government election.

---

### At the meeting

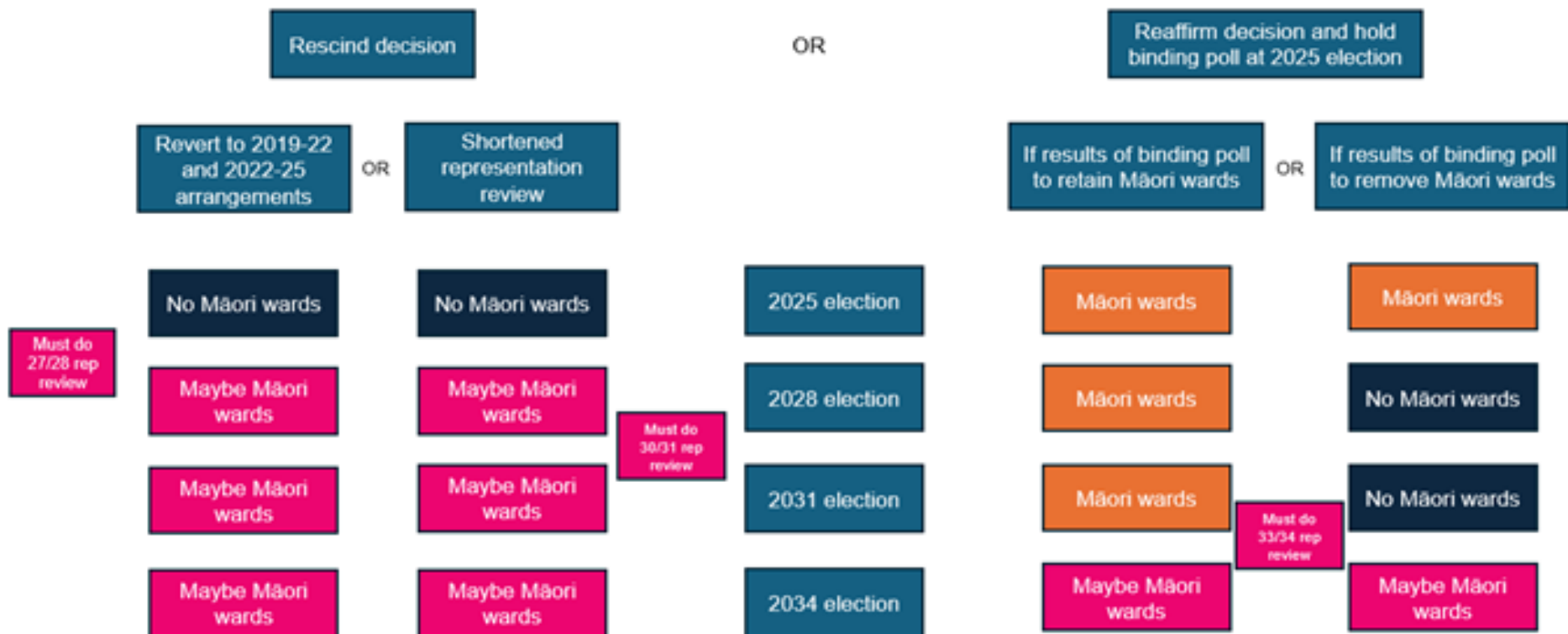
Officers spoke to the report and provided a brief update, as at the time of writing the report the Local Government (Electoral Legislation and Māori Wards and Māori Constituencies) Amendment Bill had not been enacted. There is an amendment in the Act which requires Council to make an active decision on either to rescind or reaffirm their previous Council decision to establish Māori Wards for the 2025 election.

An additional Council meeting has been scheduled for 5 September 2024 as the formal decision by Council has to be made by 6 September 2024.

The following diagram was displayed at the meeting to assist in conceptualising the different options and their consequences. The high level engagement plan in the report proposed a two week consultation period with two drop in sessions.

Two minor amendments to the engagement plan noted were:

- There would be no radio communications
  - The consultation would commence 9 August and end on 22 August 2024 at 5.00pm, not 23 August 2024.
-



---

**In response to questions the following was clarified:**

- A submission to the Bill was made on behalf of Council in line with the Waitangi Tribunal and Local Government New Zealand that it was considered that the Bill was not in line with how Napier City Council (NCC) thought Māori Wards should be treated as there are other wards, such as Rural Wards, that are not subject to these provisions.
- In regard to all Councils having to make a decision on Māori Wards since the passing of the Act, Ms Eady advised that there were three groups of Councils.
  - Councils like Wairoa that had Māori Wards prior to the Labour Party’s legislation were not required to do anything further as they had a Poll as part of their establishment of Māori Wards.
  - Councils in Group 1 that resolved to establish Māori Wards for the 2022 election, like Hawke’s Bay Regional Council. Their decision would be to retain or dis-establish Māori wards, rather than rescind, with a different process as a result of that.
  - Councils in Group 2, which NCC is part of, together with 8-10 other Councils who made the decision but have not yet established Māori Wards.

Mayor Wise advised that there was slight amendment to the original recommendation (a) as the Bill had now been passed. The original recommendation was as below:

- *Note that at the time of writing this report on 29 July, officers are expecting the Local Government (Electoral Legislation and Māori Wards and Māori Constituencies) Amendment Bill to go through its third and final reading on 30 July. The following recommendations are written on the basis of our current understanding of the Bill. If the Bill is changed, a verbal update will be provided at the meeting and any required changes to the recommendations will be made at that time.*

---

**COUNCIL  
RESOLUTION**

Mayor Wise / Deputy Mayor Brosnan

---

That Council:

- a) **Note** that the Local Government (Electoral Legislation and Māori Wards and Māori Constituencies) Amendment Bill was passed into law on 31 July 2024.
  - b) **Note** by 6 September, Council must make a decision on whether to revoke or reaffirm Council’s previous decision regarding the establishment of Māori wards for the 2025 local government election and consult with the community.
  - c) **Approve** the high-level engagement plan outlined in Attachment 1.
    - i. Consult with the community that Council’s preference is to reaffirm Council’s previous decision to establish Māori wards for the 2025 local government election.
  - d) **Note** officers will present community feedback at a council meeting scheduled for 5 September. The council will then decide whether to reaffirm or revoke its previous decision on establishing Māori wards for the 2025 local government election.
    - i. At that time, if Council decides to reaffirm Council’s previous decision, then a binding poll must be held at the 2025 local government election, or
-

- 
- ii. At that time, if Council decides to revoke Council's previous decision, then Council will also need to decide whether it retains the current representation arrangements as per 2019 and 2022, or whether it undertakes a shortened representation review with an initial proposal due by 13 September 2024.

Carried

---

*The meeting closed at 9.42am*

---

Approved and adopted as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Chairperson .....

Date of approval .....