



ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL

Open Minutes

Meeting Date: Tuesday 10 September 2024

Time: 9.30am – 10.30am

Venue Large Exhibition Hall
War Memorial Centre
Marine Parade
Napier

Livestreamed via Council's Facebook page

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

In Attendance Chief Executive (Louise Miller)
Executive Director City Strategies (Rachael Bailey)
Executive Director Infrastructure Services (Russell Bond)
Executive Director Community Services (Thunes Cloete)
Pou Whakarae (Mōrehu Te Tomo)
Manager Strategy and Transformation (Stephanie Murphy)
Project Manager - Strategy and Transformation (Jane McLoughlin)
Team Leader Governance (Anna Eady)
Sign Language Interpreters: (Sarah Billing and Cathie Siebert)

Submitters speaking: Ruth Hereora (#130) and Taiaitini Lepaio (#137)

Administration Governance Advisors (Carolyn Hunt and Jemma McDade)

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ORDER OF BUSINESS

Karakia

The meeting opened with a karakia.

Apologies

COUNCIL Councillors Mawson / Boag

RESOLUTION

That the apology for absence from Councillor Simpson be accepted.

Carried

Councillor Tareha did not attend the meeting.

Conflicts of interest

Nil

Public forum

Nil

Announcements by the Mayor

The Mayor opened the proceedings and welcomed attendees, noting that the meeting was being both recorded and livestreamed.

Announcements by the management

Nil

Confirmation of minutes – There were no minutes to confirm.

AGENDA ITEMS

1. REPRESENTATION REVIEW: HEARING OF SUBMISSIONS ON INITIAL PROPOSAL AND DETERMINATION OF FINAL PROPOSAL

Type of Report:	Legal and Operational
Legal Reference:	Local Electoral Act 2001
Document ID:	1781714
Reporting Officer/s & Unit:	Jane McLoughlin, Project Manager - Strategy and Transformation Anna Eady, Team Leader Governance

1.1 Purpose of Report

To provide submissions and an analysis of those submissions on Napier City Council's Representation Review Initial Proposal, to be considered by elected members in making a decision on the Representation Review Final Proposal.

PRESENTATION OF ORAL SUBMISSIONS

The following submitters spoke to their submissions.

Ruth Hereora (#130) spoke to her submission which did not support establishing a Maraenui Community Board and was unsure about retaining a full ward system. Ms Hereora fully supported the establishment of Māori Wards to work in partnership with one another and move forward.

Mayor Wise advised that Council had reaffirmed its decision for the establishment of Māori Wards for 2025 at the Council meeting held 5 September 2024. The second part of that process was how to include Māori Wards in the representation review model.

Taiaitini Lepaio (#137) spoke to her submission supporting a full ward system with 11 Councillors plus the Mayor and the establishment of a Māori Ward. She did not support moving to a three ward system as felt that it removed the social economic voice of Maraenui, an area which had the least engagement from Māori and Pasifika. What is good for Māori is good for everyone.

This concluded the hearing of submissions where submitters had chosen to speak to Council.

INTRODUCTION

The Project Manager - Strategy and Transformation, Ms McLoughlin together with the Team Leader Governance, Ms Eady displayed a PowerPoint presentation (Doc Id 1790959) providing a summary of the submission analysis and the final proposal on the representation review on the following:

- Retaining a full ward system
 - Moving to a 3 general ward arrangement
 - Names of general wards
 - City-wide Māori ward with two councillors
 - Council size – 11 councillors plus a Mayor
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- No Community Board in Maraenui.

Deputy Mayor Brosnan left the meeting at 10.30am

In response to questions the following was clarified:

- Ms Eady advised that in response to Submission 69 it was proposed to split a meshblock into two and move half of the meshblock incorporating Tamatea Drive, with 5 dwellings and a church, from the proposed Napier Central general ward to the Ahuriri general ward. The meshblock would be split along the road centreline at the Hawkes Bay Expressway between the Onekawa Industrial area and Parklands Residential Estate. The meshblock boundaries would align to the expressway, Prebensen Drive and Tamatea Drive.
- There were 122 responses received with a significant number relating to the establishment of Māori Wards, which was out of scope. Those submissions had also been included for consideration at the Council meeting held on 5 September 2024 on Māori Wards.
- The final proposal would be in place for the 2025 elections.
- The Local Government Commission work within the Act and it is therefore the legislation that makes the process quite prescribed and complicated. The Commission have been a very helpful support for officers through this process, however are always happy to receive feedback. It was Council's decision to go out to the community for pre-consultation and this was undertaken twice by going broad and then reducing to options. Lessons learned from this consultation will be used for the future.
- There is no process outside the Representation Review in which to change a Ward name. Any objections or appeals lodged with Council would be forwarded to the Local Government Commission for consideration with no further costs incurred to Council.
- The Pou Whakarae, confirmed there were no cultural issues surrounding the name of Ahuriri Ward.
- Ms Eady confirmed that 63 submitters of the 122 submitters voting on the City Wide Māori Ward, predominantly were voting against establishing Māori Wards in general.
- It was noted that officers would include names of roads on the final map so the boundaries are clear.

**COUNCIL
RESOLUTION**

Mayor Wise / Councillor Price

That Council:

- a. **Receive** the report titled Representation Review: Hearing of Submissions on Initial Proposal and Determination of Final Proposal, dated 10 September 2024.
- b. **Amend** the Initial Proposal adopted by Council at its meeting held 27 June 2024, under section 19N of the Local Electoral Act 2001, to include a minor boundary adjustment based on the submission (Entry ID 69), for reasons that, Council considers this ward boundary adjustment enhances effective representation of communities of interest by adding residents to the Ahuriri General Ward who have strong commonalities of interest with other residents of the Parklands Estate who reside in that ward. The boundary adjustment is achieved by:
 - i. Moving meshblock number 1427802 A from the proposed Napier Central general ward to the Ahuriri general ward which has 5 residential dwellings and a Church on the eastern side of Tamatea Drive;
 - ii. Meshblock 1427802 is split into 1427802 A and 1427802 B along the road centreline at the Hawkes Bay Expressway between the Onekawa Industrial area and Parklands Residential Estate. Nudges to the

meshblock boundaries align it to the expressway, Prebensen Drive and Tamatea Drive.

- c. **Adopt** in accordance with sections 19H and 19J and clauses 1 and 2 of schedule 1A of the Local Electoral Act 2001, a final proposal for Council representation, being:
- i. The Initial Proposal adopted by Council at its meeting held 27 June 2024, with the minor boundary adjustment listed in b. above; and that Council determines that the following representation arrangements will apply for the triennial election of the Napier City Council to be held on Saturday 11 October 2025:
1. That the basis of election is ward-only, with Napier City to be divided into four wards (proposed boundaries shown in General ward (Doc Id 1789192) and Māori ward maps (Doc Id 1773628)), these being three general wards and one Māori ward.
 2. Those four wards shall be:

General Wards

- i. Ahuriri General Ward, with three elected ward councillors
- ii. Napier Central General Ward, with three elected ward councillors
- iii. Taradale General Ward, with three elected ward councillors

Māori Ward

- iv. Te Whanga Māori Ward, with two elected ward councillors
3. That, as required by section 19T(1)(b) of the Local Electoral Act 2001, the boundaries of the above wards coincide with the current statistical meshblock areas determined by Statistics New Zealand and used for Parliamentary electoral purposes.
4. That, as required by section 19T(1)(a) of the Local Electoral Act 2001, the four wards and the number of members of each ward will provide effective representation of communities of interest within Napier City.

That the population that each member will represent is as follows:

Wards	Electoral population estimate*	No. of councillors	Population per councillor		Within +/- 10%
Ahuriri general ward	19,100	3	6,367	-83	-1.29
Napier Central general ward	20,400	3	6,800	350	5.43
Taradale general ward	18,550	3	6,183	-267	-4.13
Sub total - general wards	58,050	9	6,450		
Te Whanga Māori ward	9,480	2	4,740		N/A
Total	67,530	11	6,139		N/A

That as required by section 19V(2) of the Local Electoral Act 2001, the population each member represents falls within the range of 6,450 +/- 10%.”

5. That in accordance with section 19K of the Local Electoral Act 2001, the Council hereby records that the following changes have been made to the

membership and ward, boundaries within Napier City for the reasons set out:

- I. The total number of councillors to be elected is decreased by one to provide effective representation of for Napier City. This is achieved by grouping together communities of interest with similar common interests, land use, demographics and access to services.
- II. The reasons for the change in ward boundaries and reduction of general wards from four to three are to better reflect the district's communities of interest as detailed in the report, and to provide fairer representation by providing reasonably even representation across the wards which complies with the +/- 10% rule as outlined in section 19V of the Local Government Act 2001.
- III. Introduction of the Te Whanga Māori ward will improve the effective representation of Māori interests within Napier City, and in particular, those on the Māori electoral roll. Based on the total number of Councillors to be elected via wards, a single ward with two Māori Ward Members is introduced on the basis that this will provide for fair and effective representation across the City of those electors who opt to be on the Māori electoral roll when exercising the Māori Electoral Option.
- IV. Napier City will be divided into three general electoral ward boundaries, namely:

1. Ahuriri General Ward

Comprising of Bayview, Westshore, Inlet Napier City, Ahuriri, Bluff Hill, Hospital Hill, Poraiti Flat, Poraiti Hills, Napier Central, Nelson Park, McLean Park, Awatoto, the eastern part of Meeanee, and the northern part of Onekawa West, and the houses and church on Tamatea Drive opposite Parklands Estate.

2. Napier Central General Ward

Comprising of Marewa West, Marewa East, Onekawa Central, Onekawa East, Onekawa South, Maraenui, Pirimai East, Pirimai West, Tamatea North, Tamatea West and Tamatea East, the southern part of Onekawa West, and the Bupa Willowbank Retirement Village.

3. Taradale General Ward

Comprising of Greenmeadows West, Greenmeadows Central, Greenmeadows South, Taradale West, Taradale Central, Taradale South, Tareha Reserve, Bledisloe Park, and the western part of Meeanee.

6. That there be no community boards within Napier City. Council is satisfied that the existing communities of interest are represented by the proposed ward structure and actively engaged elected members, and that there are alternative ways to maintain and strengthen local community representation and connections within Napier City Council structures.
 7. That as required by section 19N of the Local Electoral Act 2001, public notice of the proposals contained in this resolution be given including the
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proposed reasons for any rejection of submissions as outlined in the report and below:

- I. Containing objections outside of the scope of the representation review consultation.
- II. The following table highlights the themes of submissions received in scope and rejected and the reasons.

Theme of submission rejected	Whether Council agrees to make any changes to the initial proposal
<p><u>Retaining a full ward system</u></p> <p>An at large system increases the number of candidates for voters to vote for</p> <p>Different focus of at large councillors versus ward councillors</p>	<p>Council proceeds with ward-based representation as the most effective way of representing communities of interest in Napier at this time for reasons that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There are geographically-based communities of interest in Napier. - Ward-based representation was identified as the most preferred in the pre-consultation rounds and retaining a full ward system was the most preferred by submitters on the consultation on the initial proposal. - Options in the second round of pre-consultation with at large councillors were the least favoured. - A city-wide community of interest of Māori has been identified, and this has been catered for with 1 city-wide Māori ward with 2 councillors as the preference of Māori. - Feedback from the community is for the same size or a smaller Council. Council must have a minimum of 9 general ward councillors to have 2 Māori ward councillors. Any at large councillors are additional and increase the overall size of Council. - All councillors take the same oath to act in the best interests of the city.
<p><u>Moving to a 3 general ward arrangement</u></p> <p>Napier Central ward covers too many communities of interest</p> <p>Ahuriri ward includes communities of interest that do not fit</p> <p>Should have smaller wards</p>	<p>Council proceeds with moving to a 3 general ward arrangement, with a slight boundary adjustment, for reasons that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The three wards broadly cater for communities of interest. - Three wards enables the same number of councillors for each general ward. - The introduction of Māori ward councillors will provide representation to Māori across Napier, including areas with high percentage of Māori residents such as Maraenui.

<p><u>General ward names</u></p> <p>Napier Central general ward name confusing/unimaginative</p> <p>Ahuriri general ward name not appropriate</p>	<p>Council proceeds with using the proposed general ward names for reasons that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Regarding Napier Central general ward <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o this name provides a neutral name to designate the area of Napier that the ward covers. o most residents will be unfamiliar with the Statistical Area Unit called Napier Central, and thus will not be confused by it not being included in the Napier Central general ward. - Regarding Ahuriri general ward <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o this name is the Māori name for the whole of Napier, and also refers to the suburb of Ahuriri which is part of the ward. o Ahuriri ward is the name of one of the current wards. The ward is being expanded to include some other areas of Napier, and is the largest land mass compared with the other general wards. As such, it is the most fitting to be called Ahuriri. - Council will run a ward awareness campaign once the wards are set, so that residents can learn the new ward names.
<p><u>1 city-wide Māori ward with 2 councillors</u></p> <p>Support contingent on Māori views</p> <p>Te Whanga should be written out in full</p>	<p>Council proceeds with establishing a city-wide Māori ward, named Te Whanga, with two councillors, for reasons that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No submitters against the configuration of 1 city-wide Māori ward with two councillors. - Submitters expressed support for 1 city-wide Māori ward to cover Māori as a community of interest. - Māori support this configuration. - Te Whanga is considered an appropriate name by Māori stakeholders, and Council’s Pou Whakarae.
<p><u>Council size</u></p> <p>Avoid stalemates in decision-making</p> <p>Napier doesn’t warrant such a large Council</p>	<p>Council proceeds with 11 councillors and 1 Mayor for reasons that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - there are existing mechanisms in Standing Orders to deal with a 50/50 split vote. - 11 councillors is not a significant departure from the current size of 12 councillors. To reduce the size of council further and achieve an even number of councillors between the general wards, would require a significant change to the initial proposal. - A council size of 11 is not dissimilar to other councils of a similar size.

<p><u>Not establishing a Community Board in Maraenui</u></p> <p>Should be community boards in other parts of Napier</p> <p>A community board in Maraenui will help residents voice to be heard</p>	<p>Council proceeds with not establishing a community board in Maraenui or elsewhere in Napier at this time for reasons that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There is limited support across the community for establishing a community board in Maraenui and elsewhere in Napier. - The introduction of 2 Māori ward councillors will help with providing representation of Māori in Maraenui. - There are other ways that Council can seek to improve representation outcomes in Maraenui. Officers recommend that a plan to improve representation in Maraenui is put together for council's consideration.
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Carried

Councillor McGrath abstained voting on this Motion

Attachments

- 1 Representation Review PowerPoint presentation (Doc Id 1790959)

Minor matters

There were no minor matters to discuss.

The meeting closed with a karakia at 10.30am

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

Chairperson

Date of approval