

**Report To: Council**



**Meeting Date:** 26 September 2023

**Subject:** **Review of Māori Representation – Amendment to Timeline for Deliberations and Formal Decision**

**Type:** Decision Required

**Purpose of Report**

- 1.1 The purpose of this business paper is to present to Council for consideration an amended timeline for the deliberation of submissions and making of a formal resolution in respect to the review of Maori Representation.

**Commentary**

- 2.1 Council at its meeting of 27 June 2023 considered a business paper presenting for consideration and adoption for public consultation a Consultation Document and supporting information for the review of Māori representation and resolved as follows:

**Resolution**

- 1 *The business paper on Review of Māori Representation - Consultation be received.*
- 2 *Council set aside the delegated authority made to Te Raangai Whakakaupapa Koorero Committee to make a recommendation to Council on Māori Wards (as provided in the Committee's Terms of Reference), on the basis that the full Council will hear and deliberate on all submissions received.*
- 3 *Council adopt the process and timeline for consultation on Māori Wards as follows:*

<b>Key Milestone</b>	<b>Timeframe</b>	<b>Commentary</b>
<b>Te Raangai Whakakaupapa Koorero Meeting</b> <i>Consideration of the statutory procedure to establish Māori wards</i>	23 February 2023	Complete
<b>Te Raangai Whakakaupapa Koorero Meeting</b> <i>Consideration of the engagement regarding Māori representation</i>	10 May 2023	Complete
<b>Council Meeting</b> <i>Briefing on Māori Wards and consideration of Electoral System for the 2025 and 2028 Triennial elections.</i>	30 May 2023	Complete <i>Council resolved to maintain the status quo and continue with the First Past the Post electoral system for the next two local body elections, and any associated elections, in 2025 and 2028.</i>
<b>Community Engagement (Pre-consultation)</b> <i>Seeking feedback</i>	February – June 2023	Complete <i>With community, iwi, hapu, &amp; Māori</i>
<b>Council Workshop</b> <i>Consideration of a draft Consultation Document for the review of Māori representation</i>	13 June 2023	Complete <i>Council workshopped a draft Consultation Document and Frequently Asked Questions paper.</i>

<b>Key Milestone</b>	<b>Timeframe</b>	<b>Commentary</b>
<b>Council Meeting</b> <i>Adoption of Consultation Document for the review of Māori representation.</i>	27 June 2023	
<b>Community Consultation</b> <i>Seeking feedback on the Consultation Document</i>	10 July – 17 September 2023	<i>With community, iwi, hapū, &amp; Māori</i>
<b>Drop-In Session</b>	17 August 2023	<i>Te Kuiti (3pm – 6pm)</i>
<b>Hearings</b>	4 and 5 October 2023	
<b>Council Meeting</b> <i>Deliberation of Submissions</i>	17 October 2023 <i>(after A&amp;R Committee)</i>	
<b>Council Meeting</b> <i>Council resolution in respect to the establishment of Māori wards and their make up</i>	31 October 2023	<i>LEA - S19Z - Must be completed by 23 November 2023.</i>
<b>Public Notice</b>	<i>Following above meeting</i>	<i>Last day for public notice is 30 November 2023 but must be made 14 days after resolution.</i>
<b>Notify Public Entities</b>	<i>Following above meeting</i>	

- 4 *Council adopt the process and timeline for consultation in the attached Communications and Engagement Plan (Doc A673112).*
- 5 *Council adopt the tabled Consultation Document subject to grammatical amendments.*
- 6 *The Chief Executive be authorised to make any final editorial amendments to the Consultation Document and any changes directed by the Council at this meeting.*

*Manawaiti/Robertson      Carried*

- 2.2 It is suggested that as only one day of Hearings will be required, that the formal decision on the establishment of Maori Wards be brought forward so as to deliberate and make a resolution at the scheduled Deliberations Meeting on Tuesday 17 October 2023.

## Considerations

### **4.1 RISK**

- 5.1 There is no risk in bringing forward the decision date to immediately follow Council's deliberation of submissions, other than the fact that the consultation process timeline has been widely publicised. The meeting for the deliberation and formal decision will be a public meeting and will be livestreamed with the recording available on Council's website following the meeting.

### **5.2 CONSISTENCY WITH EXISTING PLANS AND POLICIES**

- 5.3 This is consistent with Council plans and policies, WDC is required by the Local Government Act 2001 to consider Māori Wards for the 2025 and 2028 elections.

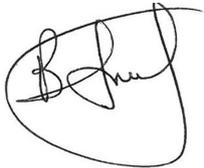
### **5.4 SIGNIFICANCE AND COMMUNITY VIEWS**

- 5.5 Decisions around representation are highly significant and affect everyone who lives in the Waitomo District. Consideration is being given to community views via the significant level of community engagement on this topic.

## Suggested Resolutions

- 1 The business paper on Review of Māori Representation – Amendment to Timeline for Deliberations and Formal Decision be received.
- 2 Council note its resolution of 27 June 2023, and amend the timeline for the remainder of the consultation process for the review of Maori Representation (including deliberation of submissions and resolution in respect to the establishment of Māori Wards) as follows:

Key Milestone	Timeframe	Commentary
<b>Council Hearing</b> Hearing of Submitters	4 October 2023	
<b>Council Meeting</b> Deliberation of Submissions and resolution in respect to the establishment of Māori wards and their make up	17 October 2023	Meeting to be convened at 1.00pm (following the scheduled Audit and Risk Committee Meeting).
<b>Public Notice</b>	Following above meeting	Last day for public notice is 30 November 2023 but must be made 14 days after resolution.
<b>Notify Public Entities</b>	Following above meeting	



BEN SMIT  
**CHIEF EXECUTIVE**