
MINUTES

of the

FULL COUNCIL MEETING

**(For the Sole Purpose of Hearing and Deliberating on the Initial Representation Proposal
and Adopting a Final Proposal for Public Consultation)**

held

9.30 am, Wednesday, 1 August 2018

at

Tasman Council Chamber, 189 Queen Street, Richmond

Present: Mayor R Kempthorne, Councillors T King, S Bryant, P Canton, M Greening, K Maling, D Wensley, D McNamara, A Turley, S Brown, D Ogilvie, T Tuffnell, P Hawkes, P Sangster

In Attendance: Chief Executive (J Dowding), Executive Assistant (H Simpson)

Part Attendance: Electoral Officer (S Hartley), Acting Community Development Manager (S Westley), Strategic Policy Manager (S Flood), Deputy Electoral Officer (A Gerraty)

1 OPENING, WELCOME

2 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Nil

3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Nil

4 LATE ITEMS

Nil

5 REPORTS

5.1 Representation Review Hearing/Deliberations and Decision Report

Electoral Officer Sandra Hartley spoke to this report. Ms Hartley advised Councillors that the Representation Review Initial Proposal had been publicly notified on 8 June 2018, with

submissions closing on 9 July 2018. A total of 14 submissions had been received. Of those, two people wished to speak to their submission.

Mayor Richard explained that Peter Foster would make his submission over the telephone as he was prevented from travelling for health reasons.

6 HEARING OF SUBMISSIONS

Peter Foster

Mr Foster thanked Councillors for the opportunity to speak to his submission. He said that he felt Councillors' responsibility under the Local Government Act, to consider matters in the best interests of the entire District not just their wards, was not well understood by the community. He said that a publicised policy statement by Council was needed to explain these responsibilities.

Mr Foster also spoke about the responsibility of Council for population growth. He said that he felt Council policy was needed around the maximum population that could be supported in the District by current levels of rainfall.

Councillors asked Mr Foster whether the intention in his submissions was that wards be abolished and replaced with the election of Councillors on a District wide basis instead. Mr Foster said that the voting system was to ensure that there was a geographical distribution of Councillors, not representation of wards and that his feeling was that ratepayers should be made aware of this.

The Mayor thanked Mr Foster for his submission.

Liz Thomas

Mrs Thomas spoke about the current voting system used by Council for Local Government Elections. She compared the Single Transferable Vote system used by the District Health Board to the First Past the Post system employed by Council.

Mrs Thomas said that she supported the division of wards and was pleased to see the proposal was to maintain the current number of elected representatives for each ward. Mrs Thomas suggested it would be worthwhile reinforcing to any new elected members following the 2019 elections, their responsibility for making informed decisions that were in the best interests of the entire District and for informing their ward communities.

Overall, Mrs Thomas said that she was supportive of all aspects of the Initial Proposal of Council, but feels that Council could delegate more powers to Community Boards.

Councillors asked what Mrs Thomas' thoughts were on what additional responsibility, if any, could be delegated to the Golden Bay Community Board. They discussed the powers a Local Board would have, which they agreed were comparable to the powers of the current Community Board.

7 DELIBERATIONS

Ms Hartley advised that once Council had decided on a final proposal, it would be publically notified and consulted on between 17 August and 18 September 2018.

She told Councillors that of the 14 submissions received, 10 submissions were in support of the Initial Proposal. Two of those had requested additional delegations for community boards and one had requested Councillors roles to be clarified. One was partially in support of the existing Golden Bay Ward arrangements, but opposed to the First Past the Post electoral voting system. Ms Hartley advised Councillors that the choice of electoral system is outside of the scope of this

review. It is anticipated that a petition will be lodged next year, requesting a poll to be held on electoral systems in conjunction with the 2019 triennial elections.

Two submissions discussed other topics including voting methods, Māori wards and use of the Mayor's casting vote. These matters are out of scope for consideration under a Representation Review. Councillors asked whether an explanation would be given to those who had submitted outside of the scope of the review as to why the matters they had submitted on could not be considered as part of this process. Ms Hartley said that she would write back to each submitter with a full explanation.

In response to a question around the process should the proposal be appealed, Ms Hartley confirmed that whether appealed or not, the proposal would have to be referred to the Local Government Commission. This is because both the Golden Bay and Moutere Waimea Wards did not meet population/councillor ratio of +/- 10% as set out in S19v(2) of the Local Electoral Act 2001.

**Moved Bryant/Cr King
CN18-08-1**

That the Full Council:

- 1. receives the Representation Review Hearing/Deliberations and Decision Report; and**
- 2. receives and considers all submissions, including the late submission, to the Council's Initial Representation Review proposal; and**
- 3. agrees to the reasons for rejecting the requests in some submissions as outlined in Attachment 3; and**
- 4. adopts the Final Representation Proposal contained in Attachment 3, which is based on the Initial Representation Proposal, including minor wording changes for clarity, and to respond to a comment by one submitter; and**
- 5. agrees that public notice be given of Council's Final Representation Proposal in Newline, inviting appeals from those people who submitted to the Initial Proposal, for a period of one month from 17 August 2018 until 18 September 2018; and**
- 6. requests that staff advise all submitters on the Initial Representation Proposal of their right to appeal on matters contained in their submissions;**
- 7. notes that as the Final Representation Proposal:**
 - does not meet legislative requirements in terms of S19V(2) of the LEA; and/or**
 - if it attracts appeals****that appeals and other relevant information is required to be forwarded to the LGC for final determination for the 2019 triennial elections, and for further elections, including by-elections, until next reviewed.**

CARRIED

The Mayor and Councillors thanked Ms Hartley for her work throughout this process.

The meeting concluded at 10.39am.

Date Confirmed:

Chair:

Confirmed