

STAFF REPORT

TO: Mayor and Councillors
FROM: Administration Advisor
REFERENCE: C772
DATE: 14 September 2005
SUBJECT: Representation Review

PURPOSE/REASON FOR REPORT

To update councillors on the progress so far, and to receive Council's endorsement on the review process.

BACKGROUND

Part 1A of the Local Electoral Act 2001 outlines the requirements for local authorities to review their representation arrangements, which was to have commenced either prior to the 2004 elections or prior to the 2007 elections. Tasman District Council resolved in July 2000 to retain the status quo, and therefore is now required to carry out their review.

Council resolved at their 30 June 2005 meeting to establish a representation review subcommittee, with a membership of one ward councillor per ward, to consider preliminary proposals for the Tasman District Council representation review, and that those proposals be brought back to a future council meeting for discussion.

COMMENT/DISCUSSION

To date the subcommittee has met twice, with another meeting scheduled for 26 September 2005.

From the first meeting several scenarios were explored based on four wards in an endeavour to meet the $\pm 10\%$ population rule, and a with a number of councillors ranging from 10 to 12. We have also explored different community board options including no community boards and promoting community associations.

A recent subcommittee meeting asked staff to report back with the following scenarios:

- Existing ward boundaries with 11 or 12 council member options
- One councillor for Golden Bay plus a community board, or two councillors for Golden Bay with no community board
- Using the 2004 estimated population figures
- Combining Lakes/Waimea wards and taking area unit “outer Motueka” out of Waimea and putting in the Motueka ward.
- A case be made for Golden Bay to be an isolated community.

The Community Board Chairs have been invited to the next Subcommittee meeting.

Detailed options for Council to consider will be available for the next Council meeting.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council reconfirms that it will carry out a full Representation Review prior to the 2007 election.

Sandra Hartley
Administration Advisor