



TE KAUNIHERA O TE AWA KAIRANGI

3 September 2024

Order Paper for Council meeting to be held in the
Council Chambers, 2nd Floor, 30 Laings Road, Lower Hutt,
on:

Tuesday 10 September 2024 commencing at 9.00am

The meeting will be livestreamed on Council's You Tube page.

Membership

Mayor C Barry (Chair)

Deputy Mayor T Lewis

Cr G Barratt

Cr K Brown

Cr S Edwards

Cr K Morgan

Cr N Shaw

Cr G Tupou

Cr J Briggs

Cr B Dyer

Cr A Mitchell

Cr C Parkin

Cr T Stallinger

For the dates and times of Council Meetings please visit www.huttcity.govt.nz

Have your say

You can speak under public comment to items on the agenda to the Mayor and Councillors at this meeting. Please let us know by noon the working day before the meeting. You can do this by emailing DemocraticServicesTeam@huttcity.govt.nz or calling the Democratic Services Team on 04 570 6666 | 0800 HUTT CITY

TE KAUNIHERA O TE AWA KAIRANGI | COUNCIL

Chair	Mayor Campbell Barry
Deputy Chair	Deputy Mayor Tui Lewis
Membership:	All Councillors (11) Refer to Council's Standing Orders (SO 31.10 Provisions for Mana Whenua)
Meeting Cycle:	Council meets on an eight-weekly basis (extraordinary meetings can be called following a resolution of Council, or on the requisition of the Chair or one-third of the total membership of Council)
Quorum:	Half of the members

POWER TO (BEING A POWER THAT IS NOT CAPABLE OF BEING DELEGATED)¹:

- Make a rate.
- Make bylaws.
- Borrow money other than in accordance with the Long Term Plan (LTP).
- Purchase or dispose of assets other than those in accordance with the LTP.
- Purchase or dispose of Council land and property other than in accordance with the LTP.
- Adopt the LTP, Annual Plan and Annual Report.
- Adopt policies required to be adopted and consulted on under the Local Government Act 2002 in association with the LTP or developed for the purpose of the Local Governance Statement.
- Appoint the Chief Executive.
- Exercise any powers and duties conferred or imposed on the local authority by the Local Government Act 1974, the Public Works Act 1981, or the Resource Management Act 1991, that are unable to be delegated.
- Undertake all other actions which are by law not capable of being delegated.
- The power to adopt a Remuneration and Employment Policy for Council employees.

DECIDE ON:

Policy and Bylaw issues:

- Adoption of all policies required by legislation.
- Adoption of strategies, and policies with a city-wide or strategic focus.
- Approval of draft bylaws before the consultation.
- Adoption of new or amended bylaws.

District Plan:

- Approval to call for submissions on any Proposed District Plan, Plan Changes and Variations.

¹ Work required before the making of any of these decisions may be delegated.

- Before public notification, approval of recommendations of District Plan Hearings Subcommittees on any Proposed Plan, Plan Changes (including private Plan Changes) and Variations.
- The withdrawal of Plan Changes in accordance with clause 8D, Part 1, Schedule 1 of the Resource Management Act 1991.
- Approval, to make operative, District Plan and Plan Changes (in accordance with clause 17, Part 1, Schedule 1 of the Resource Management Act 1991).
- Acceptance, adoption, or rejection of private Plan Changes.

Representation, electoral and governance matters:

- The method of voting for the triennial elections.
- Representation reviews.
- Council’s Code of Conduct for elected members.
- Hearing of and making decisions on breaches of Council’s Code of Conduct for elected members.
- Elected members’ remuneration.
- The outcome of any extraordinary vacancies on Council.
- Any other matters for which a local authority decision is required under the Local Electoral Act 2001.
- Appointment and discharge of members of committees when not appointed by the Mayor.
- Adoption of Terms of Reference for Council Committees, Subcommittees and Working Groups, and oversight of those delegations.
- Council’s delegations to officers, community boards and community funding panels.

Delegations and employment of the Chief Executive:

Appointment of the Chief Executive of Hutt City Council.

Meetings and committees:

- Standing Orders for Council and its committees.
- Council’s annual meeting schedule.

Long Term and Annual Plans:

- The adoption of the LTP and Annual Plans.
- Determination of rating levels and policies required as part of the LTP.
- Adoption of Consultation Documents proposed and final LTPs and proposed and final Annual Plans.

Council Controlled Organisations:

- The establishment and disposal of any Council Controlled Organisation or Council Controlled Trading Organisation.
- Approval of annual Statements of Intent and annual Statement of Expectation for Council Controlled Organisations and Council Controlled Trading Organisations.

Community Engagement and Advocacy:

- Receive reports from the Council's Advisory Groups.
- Regular reporting from strategic partners.

Operational Matters:

- Civil Defence Emergency Management matters requiring Council's input.
- Road closing and road stopping matters.
- Approval of overseas travel for elected members.
- All other matters for which final authority is not delegated.

Appoint:

- The non-elected members of the Standing Committees, including extraordinary vacancies of non- elected representatives.
- The Directors of Council Controlled Organisations and Council Controlled Trading Organisations.
- Council's nominee on any Trust.
- Council representatives on any outside organisations (where applicable and time permits, recommendations for the appointment may be sought from the appropriate Standing Committee and/or outside organisations).
- Council's Electoral Officer, Principal Rural Fire Officer and any other appointments required by statute.
- The recipients of the annual Civic Honours awards.

TE KAUNIHERA O TE AWA KAIRANGI | HUTT CITY COUNCIL

Ordinary meeting to be held in the Council Chambers,
2nd Floor, 30 Laings Road, Lower Hutt on
Tuesday 10 September 2024 commencing at 9.00am.

ORDER PAPER

PUBLIC BUSINESS

1. OPENING FORMALITIES - KARAKIA TIMATANGA

Whakataka te hau ki te uru	<i>Cease the winds from the west</i>
Whakataka te hau ki te tonga	<i>Cease the winds from the south</i>
Kia mākinakina ki uta	<i>Let the breeze blow over the land</i>
Kia mātaratara ki tai	<i>Let the breeze blow over the ocean</i>
E hī ake ana te atakura	<i>Let the red-tipped dawn come with</i>
He tio, he huka, he hau hū	<i>a sharpened air.</i>
Tihei mauri ora.	<i>A touch of frost, a promise of a</i>
	<i>glorious day.</i>

2. APOLOGIES

No apologies have been received.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

Generally up to 30 minutes is set aside for public comment (three minutes per speaker on items appearing on the agenda). Speakers may be asked questions on the matters they raise.

4. CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATIONS

Members are reminded of the need to be vigilant to stand aside from decision making when a conflict arises between their role as a member and any private or other external interest they might have.

5. REPRESENTATION REVIEW 2024: FINAL REPRESENTATION PROPOSAL

Report No. HCC2024/4/262 by the Head of Strategy and Policy

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MAYOR'S RECOMMENDATION:

“That the recommendations contained in the report be discussed.”

6. QUESTIONS

With reference to section 32 of Standing Orders, before putting a question a member shall endeavour to obtain the information. Questions shall be concise and in writing and handed to the Chair prior to the commencement of the meeting.

7. **CLOSING FORMALITIES - KARAKIA WHAKAMUTUNGA**

Unuhia!	<i>Release us from the supreme sacredness</i>
Unuhia!	<i>of our tasks</i>
Unuhia i te uru-tapu-nui	<i>To be clear and free</i>
Kia wātea, kia māmā	<i>in heart, body and soul in our continuing</i>
Te ngākau, te tinana, te wairua i te	<i>journey</i>
ara takatū	<i>Oh Rongo, raise these words up high</i>
Koia rā e Rongo whakairihia ake ki	<i>so that we be cleansed and be free,</i>
runga	<i>Yes indeed, we are free!</i>
Kia wātea, kia wātea!	<i>Good and peaceful</i>
Ae rā, kua wātea!	
Hau, pai mārire.	

Kate Glanville
SENIOR DEMOCRACY ADVISOR

15 August 2024

Report no: HCC2024/4/262

Representation Review 2024: Final Representation Proposal

Purpose of Report

1. To seek Hutt City Council's (Council's) agreement on the final representation proposal (final proposal) for public notification.

Recommendations

That Council:

- (1) notes that on 27 June 2024 Council adopted its initial representation proposal for public consultation (attached as Appendix 1 to the report) based on the recommendations of the independent representation review panel;
- (2) notes that consultation on the initial representation proposal ran from 1 July to 1 August 2024 with 370 valid submissions received;
- (3) notes that hearings of submissions were held on 26 August 2024;
- (4) notes the analysis of submissions attached in Appendix 2 to the report;
- (5) agrees to extend the Harbour ward to include the area south of Burdan's Gate to Pencarrow lighthouse, attached at Appendix 3, for the reason that:
 - (a) submissions presented a compelling case that the area south of Burdan's Gate better aligns with the functional dimension of the community of interest in Eastbourne rather than Wainuiomata due to its geographically-bound accessibility constraint;
- (6) agrees to adopt the following as its final representation proposal under sections 19H and 19J of the Local Electoral Act 2001:
 - (a) Hutt City Council comprise a mayor and 13 councillors;
 - (b) the councillors be elected under a mixed system of representation, with:
 - i. five councillors elected at-large across the City;
 - ii. seven councillors elected from five general wards; and
 - iii. one councillor elected from one Māori ward;

- (c) the five general wards be as follows:
 - i. Northern General Ward covering Stokes Valley, Taita, Naenae and Avalon, electing two councillors;
 - ii. Central General Ward covering Boulcott, Epuni, Fairfield, Waterloo, Hutt Central, Alicetown, Melling, Woburn and Waiwhetu, electing two Councillors;
 - iii. Western General Ward covering Manor Park, Belmont Park, Kelson, Belmont, Tirohanga, Normandale and Maungaraki, electing one councillor;
 - iv. Harbour General Ward covering Korokoro, Petone, Moera, Gracefield, Eastern Bays and Eastbourne including the area south of Burdan’s Gate, electing one councillor; and
 - v. Wainuiomata General Ward electing one councillor;
 - (d) the Māori ward, covering the area of the City, be called Mana Kairangi ki Tai Māori Ward; and
 - (e) there be no community boards in the City and the three existing community boards be disestablished;
- (7) agrees that the ground on which the final proposal is not compliant with section 19V(2) of the Local Electoral Act 2001 is that compliance with subsection (2) would result in either dividing Wainuiomata or uniting parts of this community of interest with other areas with few commonalities;
- (8) agrees to the proposed “reasons for any rejection of submissions” as outlined in the final representation proposal attached at Appendix 4;
- (9) notes that if agreed the final representation proposal will be publicly notified on 11 September 2024; and
- (10) notes the appeals process will run from 12 September 2024 to 12 October 2024, with a Local Government Commission hearing date on 26 November 2024, if required.

For the reason that Council has authority to adopt a final representation proposal.

Background

2. The Local Electoral Act 2001 (the Act) requires councils to undertake a review of their representation arrangements at least every six years.
3. Council’s last review was prior to the 2019 elections, so it is required to do another review in time for the 2025 elections.
4. On 30 May 2023, Council resolved to appoint an independent representation review panel (the Panel) to undertake the review, and ensure a robust, independent, and comprehensive process was followed.
5. On 27 June 2024, Council agreed to consult on the initial representation proposal (initial proposal) attached as Appendix 1.

6. In accordance with the Act, public consultation ran from 1 July 2024 to 1 August 2024. Council received a total of 370 valid submissions from the online survey, paper surveys and email submissions, including 10 on behalf of organisations or committees. Copies of all submissions were provided to elected members on 8 August 2024. The full set of submissions is publicly available on the Council website: [Representation Review 2024 Full Submissions](#).
7. On 26 August 2024, Council heard submissions on the initial representation proposal. 32 speakers presented their submissions at the hearings. Officers also briefed Council on the analysis of submission results.
8. On 6 September 2024, Council will consider whether to affirm or rescind its decision of 21 November 2023 to establish a Māori ward in Te Awa Kairangi ki Tai Lower Hutt.

Timeline

9. The timeline for the representation review is provided in Table 1.

Table 1: Representation Review timeline

Date	Activity	Status
30 May 2023	Council agrees to establish an independent representation review panel to undertake the representation review	Complete
August 2023	Panel appointed and begins public engagement	Complete
21 November 2023	Council resolved, in accordance with the Act, that a Māori ward is established for the 2025 elections	Complete
March 2024	The Panel completes public engagement	Complete
27 June 2024	Council receives the Panel's report and adopts the initial representation proposal for public consultation	Complete
1 July- 1 August 2024	Public consultation	Complete
26 August 2024	Hearing of Submissions and deliberation on the initial representation proposal	Complete
6 September 2024	Decision to retain or rescind Māori ward	Complete
10 September 2024	Council adopts the final representation proposal	Today
11 September 2024	Public notice of the final representation proposal	To be completed
12 September to 12 October 2024	Appeals and objections period	To be completed
26 November 2024	Local Government Commission Hearing (if required)	To be completed

Discussion

Determining the final representation proposal

10. Following the hearing of submission on the initial proposal, Council must consider any amendments and determine the final proposal for public notification.

11. The final proposal must in some way address the principal issues raised through the submission process. Any amendments from the initial proposal in Council's final proposal should be made in response to submissions, or else the initial proposal needs to be retained.
12. In line with section 19A of the Act, changes to the initial proposal can only be considered if there was a clear rationale for a particular change that came through the submission process.
13. In addition, issues such as funding representation arrangements sit outside the decision on the final proposal. For example, funding mechanisms for Community Boards cannot be a consideration or influencing factor when making decisions about fair and effective representation in the final proposal. Also, should Council decide to abolish Community Boards, systems and process to improve community connections and engagement will not form part of the final proposal. These should be considered after Council's decision on the final proposal.
14. Any change that was not proposed through the submissions process would be open to appeal. If the final proposal is appealed, the Local Government Commission will ask to see the rationale for the change.
15. Once agreed, within eight weeks of the closing date for submissions (i.e. by 26 September 2024), Council must give public notice of its final representation proposal in accordance with section 19N(1) of the Act.
16. Under section 19N(2) of the Act, Council's public notice of its final representation proposal is required to state the reasons for amendments and the reasons for any rejection of submissions. The reasons must be recorded in the resolution of the final proposal.

Proposed amendments in submissions to the initial representation proposal

17. An analysis of the submission results is attached at Appendix 2.

Proposal to change ward boundaries

18. Five submissions suggested extending the Harbour ward to include the area south of Burdan's Gate to Pencarrow lighthouse on the basis that due to its geographically bound accessibility constraints, this area better aligns with the functional dimension of the community of interest in Eastbourne rather than Wainuiomata.
19. The proposed new ward boundary map is attached as Appendix 3. Note that the area covered by the boundary aligns with two mesh blocks (the smallest unit for ward boundary determination) in the area.
20. If agreed, the proposed boundary change will be included in the final representation proposal.

21. 15 submissions suggested that the suburb of Korokoro, currently part of the Harbour ward, would be better placed in the Western ward for the reason that there is better geographic alignment with the Western ward. Submissions for retaining Korokoro in the Harbour ward noted:
- a. the main road access from Korokoro is directly into Petone, not the Western Hills which therefore creates a stronger connection to the Harbour ward; and
 - b. because of the road connection, people in Korokoro more readily identify with Petone rather than the suburbs on the Western Hills.

Proposal to disestablish Community Boards

22. The Panel's Report included a detailed reflection on the place of Community Boards in the city's representation arrangements. Acknowledging that there is a degree of support for Community Boards, the Report also noted the generally poor understanding across the city of the formal role of Community Boards and what they currently do.
23. Given the changing nature of the community's interests, needs and aspirations, and also the clear obligation on the Council to inform, consult, represent and make decisions on behalf of those communities, the Panel concluded that there should be no Community Boards in Lower Hutt.
24. The strongest submission feedback on the initial proposal was on the question of disestablishing Community Boards. Survey results showed that 79 respondents (21%) supported the proposal; 268 respondents (72%) opposed; while 18 (5%) were neutral. Five participants left no response.
25. A demographic analysis of those who made submissions shows Eastbourne and Eastern Bays had a higher number of submitters than any other suburb with 207 submissions (55%), followed by Wainuiomata with 21 (6%) and Petone with 18 (5%).
26. The survey results could be reflective of the high level of engagement in the survey from those residents who live in areas with current Community Boards.
27. The key issues raised for and against the proposal to disestablish Community boards can be summarised as:
- a. support for proposal:
 - 10 comments (12%) note that community boards are ineffective, offer little value or don't represent all views in their communities; and
 - 13 comments (16%) in support of disestablishing community boards note the lack of equality across the city based on the current model where three suburbs have additional representation.

- b. opposition to proposal:
- the general sentiment from those who oppose this proposal is that Community Boards are a valuable asset for representing, supporting and advocating for local issues, particularly in the unique communities they currently operate in; and
 - 80 comments (29%) refer specifically to the value of service provided by the Eastbourne Community Board.
28. 61 submissions (16%) suggested extending Community Boards to all wards.
29. Officers have investigated whether an option open to Council would be to consider retaining the Eastbourne Community Board and disestablishing the other two Community Boards. While this is something Council could consider in its final representation proposal, it would not be advisable.
30. Section 19A of the Act is clear that changes to the initial proposal can only be considered if there was a clear rationale for a particular change that came through the submission process. The option for retaining only one Community Board and disestablishing others did not come up in submissions; feedback in support of Community Boards spoke to the value of these structures in terms of representing community views, and not the desire to retain one Community Board over the others.
31. Officers note that any change in the final proposal that did not come through the submission process with a clear supporting rationale carries a high risk of being successfully appealed if challenged. In this respect, officer advice is that Council considers one of two options with respect to Community Boards:
- a. either progress with the initial proposal (disestablish the current Community Boards) or
 - b. retain the status quo (do not disestablish the Eastbourne, Wainuiomata and Petone Community Boards).

Other issues raised in submissions

32. Table 2 below provides a list of other themes raised in submissions where changes were suggested to the initial proposal.

Table 2: Submission themes for changes to the initial representation proposal

Submission Theme	Number of comments
Council should not have a Māori ward	76
Council should extend Community Boards to all wards	61
Council should have fewer Councillors	35
Council should maintain the status quo	22
Representation should be one ward Councillor per General ward only	21
Council should add another Councillor to the Wainuiomata General ward	20
Council should be made up of ward Councillors only	11
Council should be made up of at-large Councillors only	10
Council should add another Councillor to the Harbour General ward	10
Council should retain the Eastern ward	8
Council should have a greater number of Councillors	7
Council should create a combined Harbour ward Community Board	6
Council should establish more than one Māori ward	4
Council should create a part-time Wainuiomata Councillor	1
Council should give Community Boards more powers	1
Council should reduce the number of wards	1
Council should be considering amalgamation	1

Update on ward representation using the +/- 10% rule

33. In accordance with the section 19 of the Act, the percentage difference from the average population per Councillor must be within +/- 10% of each other to meet the fair representation rule.
34. Section 19V(2) of the Act requires the calculation for fair representation (the +/-10% rule) to be applied at the ward level. This means that representation arrangements resolved by councils must use Statistics New Zealand (Stats NZ) population estimates at the level of the proposed boundaries. In the case of Hutt City Council, this is at the ward level.

35. For modelling and consultation on the initial proposal, officers used indicative Stats NZ ward population totals to calculate fair representation. Updated customised estimates from Stats NZ to accurately represent the proposed new ward boundaries are provided in Table 3 below.

Table 3: Customised Statistics New Zealand population for new ward boundaries (excluding Residents on the Māori electoral roll)

Ward	General Electoral Population	Crs	Population per councillor	Difference from average	% Difference from average
Northern General Ward	27500	2	13750	-1000	-6.78%
Central General Ward	27500	2	13750	-1000	-6.78%
Western General Ward	13950	1	13950	-800	-5.42%
Harbour General Ward	15700	1	15700	950	+6.44%
Wainuiomata General Ward	16600	1	16600	1850	+12.54%
Average			14,750		

36. The table demonstrates that the proposal meets the +/- 10% fair representation rule except for Wainuiomata ward, which is 12.54%.
37. Non-compliance with the fair representation rule is permissible subject to approval by the Local Government Commission. Officers advise that Wainuiomata ward meets the criteria for an exemption as it is clearly a distinct community of interest, perceptually, functionally and politically. Any attempt to alter Wainuiomata's current ward boundaries would result in either dividing this community of interest or uniting parts of this community of interest with other areas with few commonalities.
38. Based on the customised Stats NZ data, there are 12,730 people on the Māori electoral roll. Because there is only one Māori ward councillor elected from people on the Māori electoral roll, the +/-10% rule does not apply.

Final Representation Proposal

39. The draft final representation proposal is attached at Appendix 4, including the following as defined under sections 19H and 19J of the Local Electoral Act 2001:
- a. Hutt City Council comprise a mayor and 13 councillors;
 - b. the councillors be elected under a mixed system of representation, with:
 - i. five councillors elected at-large across the City;
 - ii. seven councillors elected from five general wards; and
 - iii. one councillor elected from one Māori ward;
 - c. the five general wards be as follows:
 - i. Northern General Ward covering Stokes Valley, Taita, Naenae and Avalon, electing two councillors;
 - ii. Central General Ward covering Boulcott, Epuni, Fairfield, Waterloo, Hutt Central, Alicetown, Melling, Woburn and Waiwhetu, electing two Councillors;
 - iii. Western General Ward covering Manor Park, Belmont Park, Kelson, Belmont, Tirohanga, Normandale and Maungaraki, electing one councillor;
 - iv. Harbour General Ward covering Korokoro, Petone, Moera, Gracefield, Eastern Bays and Eastbourne including the area south of Burdan's Gate, electing one councillor; and
 - v. Wainuiomata General Ward electing one councillor;
 - d. the Māori ward, covering the area of the City, be called Mana Kairangi ki Tai Māori Ward; and
 - e. there be no community boards in the City and the three existing community boards be disestablished.
40. As required by sections 19T(b) and 19W(c) of the Act, the boundaries of the above wards and communities coincide with the boundaries of current statistical meshblock areas determined by Statistics New Zealand and used for parliamentary electoral purposes.
41. Officers have drafted the final proposal to reflect submission feedback and direction from elected members following the hearings on 26 September 2024.
42. In accordance with section 19N of the Act, the draft final proposal must be updated to provide reasons for the acceptance or rejection of themes that came through the submissions process.

Next Steps

Closing the loop

43. Following Council's decision, the final representation proposal will be publicly notified on 11 September 2024 in accordance with section 19N of the Act.
44. The final representation proposal will be shared with the community through the following methods:
 - a. a summary of results and full analysis on Council's website;
 - b. public notice on Council's website;
 - c. public notice printed in the Hutt News, Eastbourne Herald and Wainuiomata News;
 - d. public notice poster displayed in Neighbourhood Hubs;
 - e. a media release; and
 - f. Social Media posts.

Appeals and objections

45. In accordance with the Act, the appeals and objection period will run from 12 September to 12 October 2024.
46. If hearings are required for any appeals or objections made to the Local Government Commission, a provisional date of 26 November 2024 has been allocated by the Local Government Commission.
47. Any agreed changes as a result of the appeals process will be implemented in preparation for the local body elections in October 2025.

Future arrangements for community connection and engagement

48. A key finding in the Panel's report was that certain communities face significant challenges in having their voices heard by the City's decision-makers. The Panel found that many people feel there is not a clear, visible pathway for communities to approach and engage with Council on matters that are of interest or importance to them.
49. Given the changing demographics of Te Awa Kairangi ki Tai Lower Hutt, the Panel emphasised the need for Council to recognise the diversity of the City's communities and their aspirations for 'having a voice' on decisions that matter to those communities.
50. The Panel's report recommended greater use of participatory practices within Council. Examples of participatory practices could include citizens assemblies, participatory discussions, and participatory budgeting.
51. Should Council decide to disestablish Community Boards, officers will commence a programme of work to lift engagement with local communities, including exploring participatory engagement practices

52. Following final decisions on the representation review, officers would look to commence workshops with elected members towards the end of 2024, alongside some focused community engagement.
53. Final decisions, including any resourcing, funding requirements, systems, and processes would be made in 2025 ahead of the local body election.

Climate Change Impact and Considerations

54. Not applicable.

Consultation

55. The consultation on the initial representation proposal must be run using a special consultative procedure as defined in section 83 of the Local Government Act 2002.
56. There were 370 valid submissions received as part of the public consultation on the initial representation proposal.

Legal Considerations

57. The Local Electoral Act 2001 requires councils to undertake a review of their representation arrangements at least every six years.
58. Council's last review was prior to the 2019 elections, so it is required to undertake this review in time for the 2025 elections.
59. Section 19N of the Act is clear that within eight weeks of the end of the submission period, Council must consider all submissions received and may, by resolution, make such amendments to the resolution made under the Act.
60. Council must also give public notice of its final representation proposal. The proposal must:
 - a. incorporate any amendments resolved under subsection (1)(a) of the Act;
 - b. state both the reasons for the amendments and the reasons for any rejection of submissions;
 - c. specify the communities of interest considered by the council;
 - d. specify the ratio of population to proposed members for each proposed ward, and the reasons for those proposals in terms of section 19V(2) and, if applicable, section 19V(3) of the Act; and
 - e. specify the right of appeal conferred by section 19O of the Act, including the place and closing date for the receipt of appeals; and
 - f. if the Council has amended its initial proposal, specify the right of objection conferred by section 19P of the Act, including the place and closing date for the receipt of objections.

61. In the final proposal, Council must provide a clear and defensible rationale for accepting or rejecting submission feedback. For example, the Council's 2019 representation review was subject to a successful appeal as a result of the final proposal not being supported by clear rationale.

Financial Considerations

62. Budget for the representation review was provided in the 2021-31 Long-Term Plan.

Appendices

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Author: Richard Hardie
Head of Strategy and Policy

Reviewed By: Bradley Cato
Chief Legal Officer

Reviewed By: Jarred Griffiths
Director Strategy and Engagement

Approved By: Jo Miller
Chief Executive



Initial Representation Proposal

1. Hutt City Council adopts the following as its initial representation proposal under sections 19H and 19J of the Local Electoral Act 2001:
 - a) Hutt City Council comprise a mayor and 13 councillors;
 - b) the councillors be elected under a mixed system of representation, with:
 - i. five councillors elected at-large across the City;
 - ii. seven councillors elected from five general wards; and
 - iii. one councillor elected from one Māori ward;
 - c) the five general wards be as follows:
 - i. Northern General Ward covering Stokes Valley, Taita, Naenae and Avalon, electing two councillors;
 - ii. Central General Ward covering Boulcott, Epuni, Fairfield, Waterloo, Hutt Central, Alicetown, Melling, Woburn and Waiwhetu, electing two Councillors;
 - iii. Western General Ward covering Manor Park, Belmont Park, Kelson, Belmont, Tirohanga, Normandale and Maungaraki, electing one councillor;
 - iv. Harbour General Ward covering Korokoro, Petone, Moera, Gracefield, Eastern Bays and Eastbourne, electing one councillor; and
 - v. Wainuiomata General Ward electing one councillor;
 - d) the Māori ward, covering the area of the City, be called Mana Kairangi ki Tai Māori Ward; and
 - e) there be no community boards in the City and the three existing community boards be abolished.

2. Hutt City Council notes the recommended arrangements change current representation arrangements as follows:
 - a) the total number of councillors is increased to 13, compared to the current total of 12 councillors;

- b) the addition of one Māori ward electing one Māori ward councillor;
- c) five councillors elected at-large, compared to six councillors elected at-large currently;
- d) seven councillors elected from five general wards, compared to six councillors elected from six wards currently, as:
 - i. five general wards best meets the requirement for effective representation of communities of interest under section 19T of the Local Electoral Act 2001; and
 - ii. seven councillors elected from these five wards best meets the requirement for fair representation under section 19V of the Local Electoral Act 2001;
- e) Wainuiomata Ward does not meet the requirement for fair representation (the +/-10% rule) and this is necessary to avoid dividing this community of interest between wards, or uniting within one ward, communities of interest with few commonalities;
- f) the current Northern Ward is expanded to also include:
 - i. all of Avalon northwards from Fairway Drive and Daysh Street;
 - ii. all of Naenae northwards from that part of Naenae Road between Cambridge Terrace and Waddington Drive, also including the properties on Hamerton Street and between this street and Naenae Road;
- g) the current Central Ward is expanded to also include:
 - i. all of Alicetown and Melling, being all properties within the area between Wakefield Street, Western Hutt Road (SH 2), Melling Link and Te Awa Kairangi/Hutt River;
 - ii. the area of Woburn south of Whites Line West, being properties on the southern side of this road and also on Richmond Grove, Fuller Grove, Saulbrey Grove and Trevethick Grove;
 - iii. the area of Waiwhetu south of Whites Line East, being properties on the southern side of this road and on all roads off Whites Line East to the south, including those off Leighton Avenue, Bell Road and Wainui Road as far as and including Riverside Drive;
- h) the current Eastern Ward is disestablished as a result of the expansion of the Northern and Central wards, with this involving Fairfield and Waterloo also being part of the expanded Central Ward;
- i) the current Harbour Ward is reduced as a result of:

- i. the area of Woburn south of Whites Line West being part of the Central Ward;
 - ii. the area of Waiwhetu south of Whites Line East being part of the Central Ward; and
 - j) the current Western Ward is reduced by Alicetown and Melling being part of Central Ward.
3. Hutt City Council notes the proposal for there to be no community boards in Lower Hutt and for the three current boards to be abolished, reflects the view that formal structures like community boards positioned between the community and the Council is not likely to be effective in the 21st century, based on the changing nature of the community's interests, needs and aspirations, and also the obligation on the Council to inform, consult, represent and make decisions on behalf of those communities.





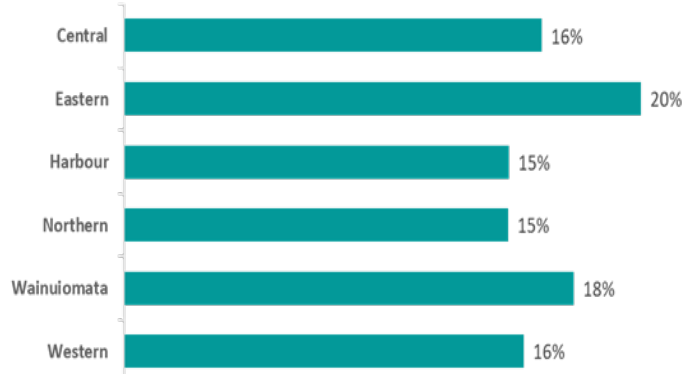
Representation Review



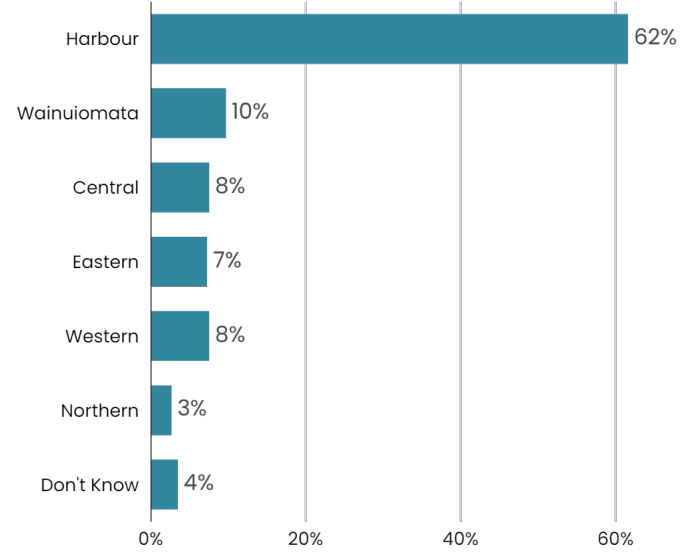
▲ Pukeariki / Belmont Trig

Responses breakdown by Ward

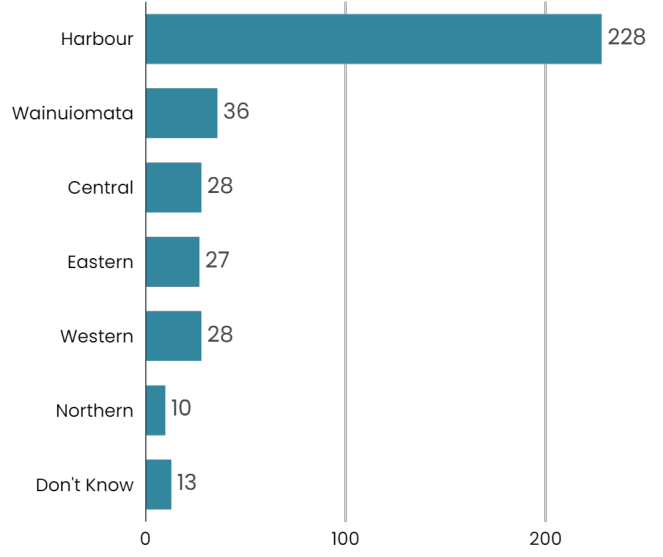
Population distribution by ward, Lower Hutt (Census 2018)



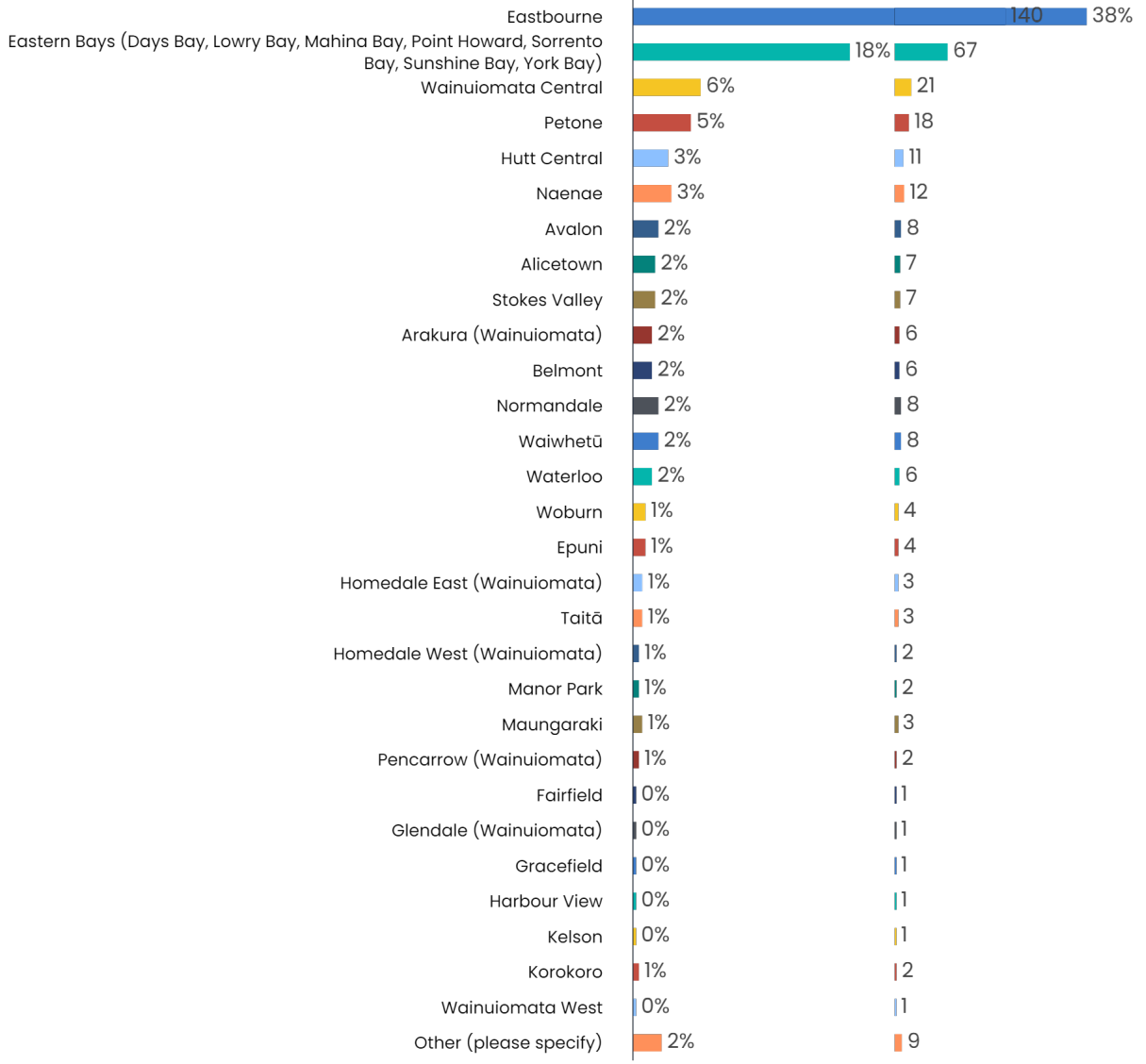
Participant rate by wards



Participant numbers by wards

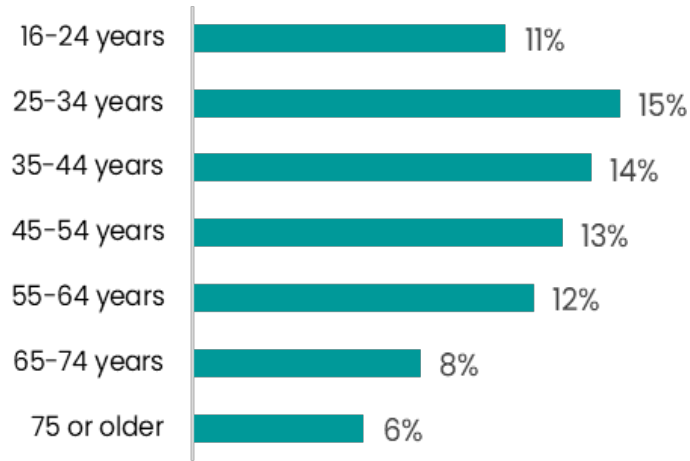


Responses breakdown by Suburb

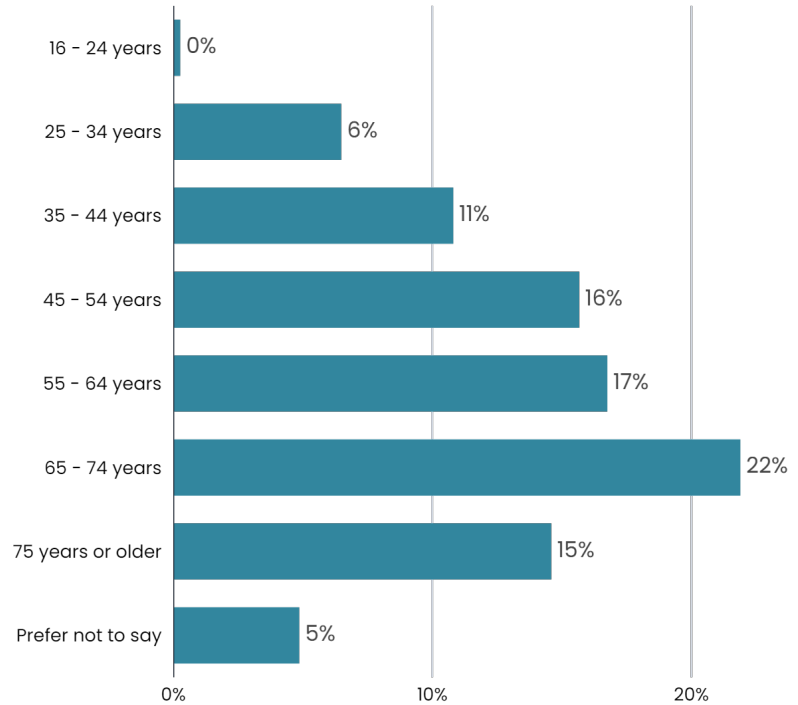


Age distribution (Census 2018)

Age Distribution of Lower Hutt (Census 2018)



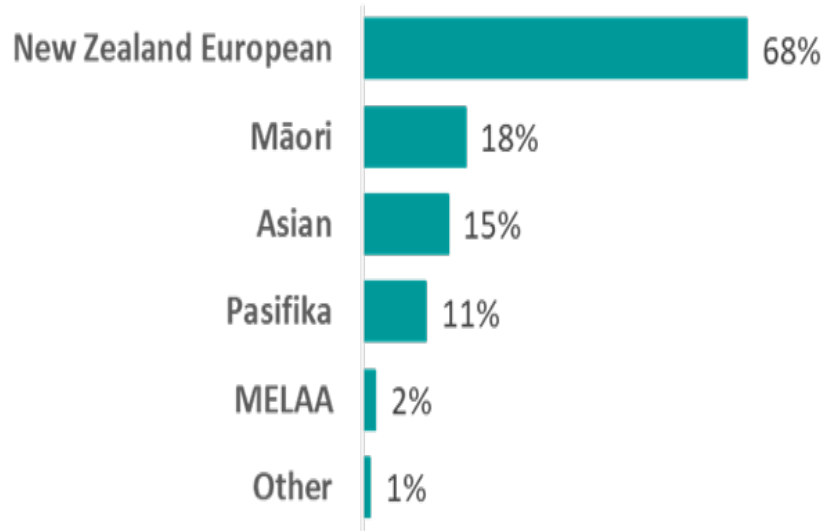
Age distribution (Response Sample)



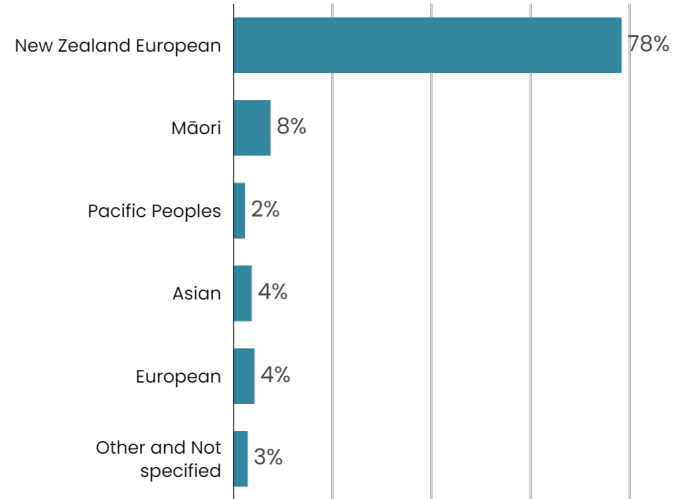
Responses breakdown by Ethnic Distribution

Ethnic distribution (Census 2018)

Ethnicity Distribution of Lower Hutt (Census 2018)

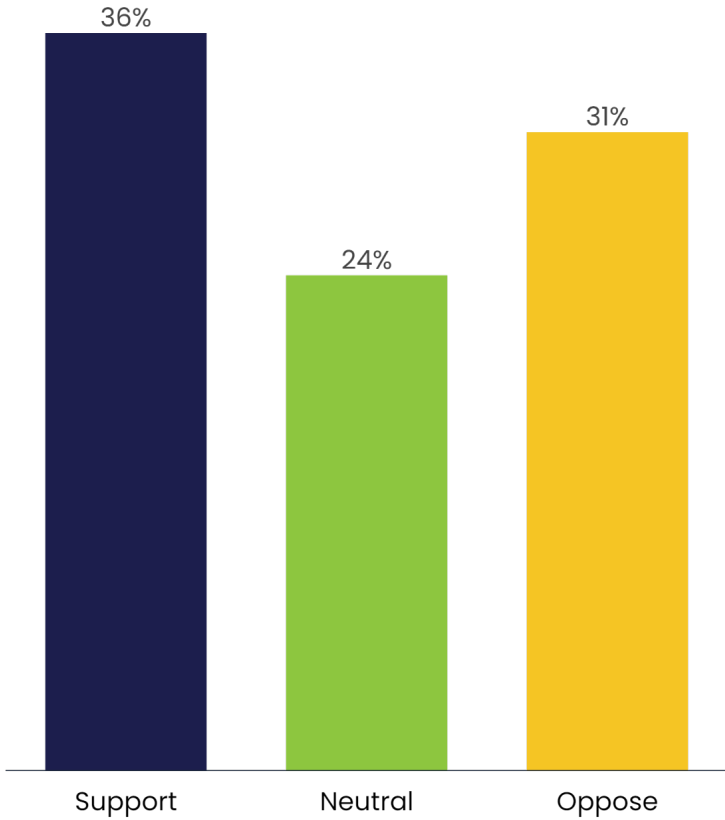


Ethnic distribution (Response Sample)



Do you support the proposal that Hutt City Council comprise a Mayor and 13 Councillors

Select desired filter from filter menu

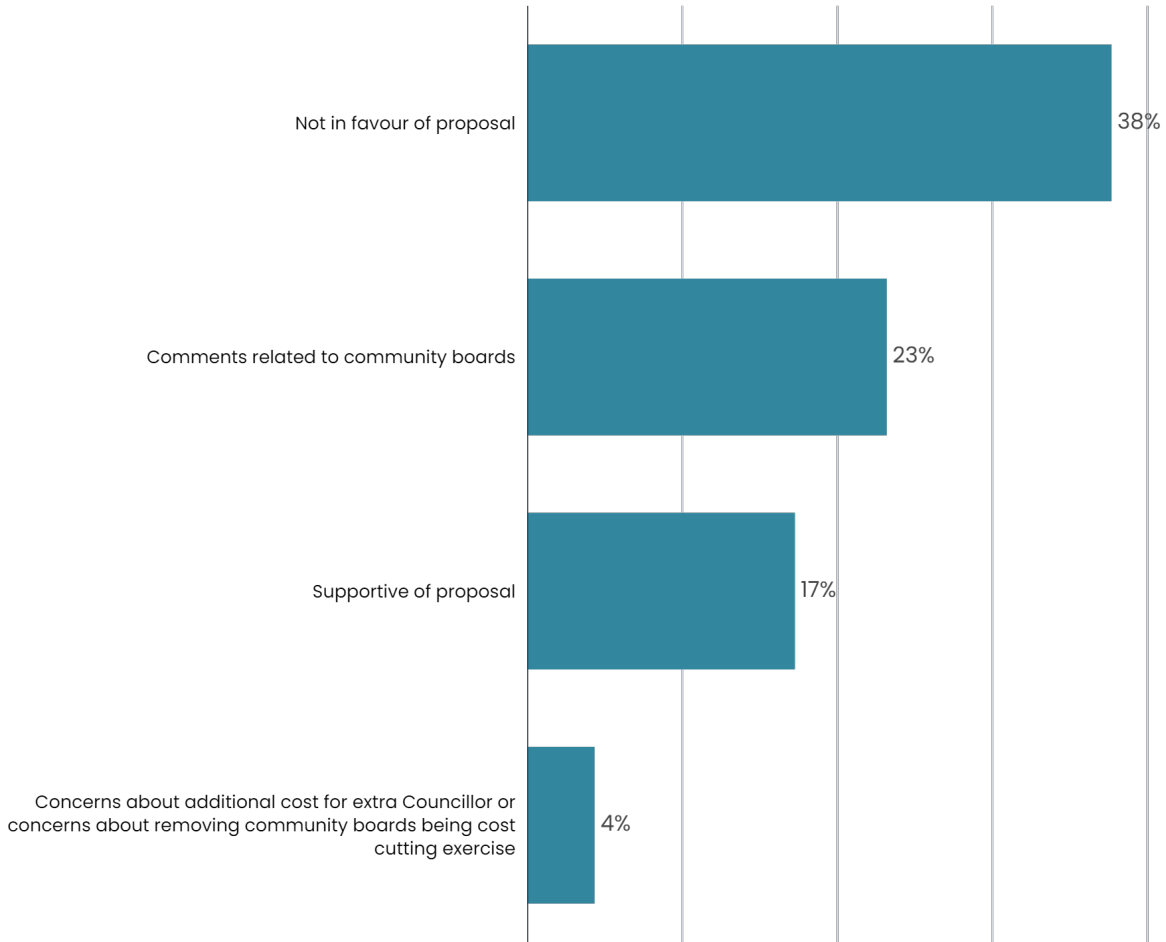


It is proposed that Hutt City Council is made up of a Mayor and 13 councillors:



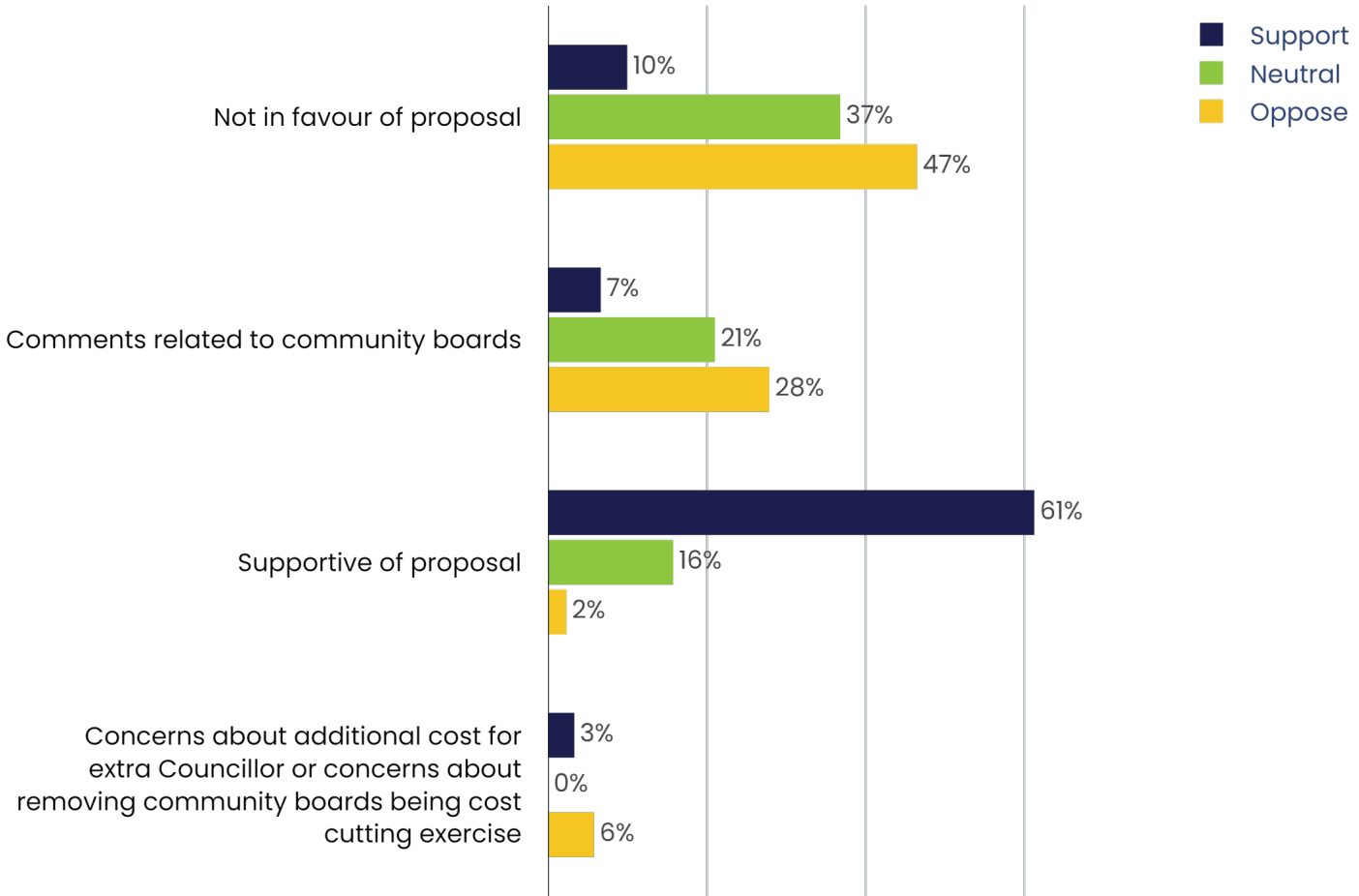
Verbatim responses on Do you support the proposal that Hutt City Council comprise a Mayor and 13 Councillors

Select desired filter from filter menu



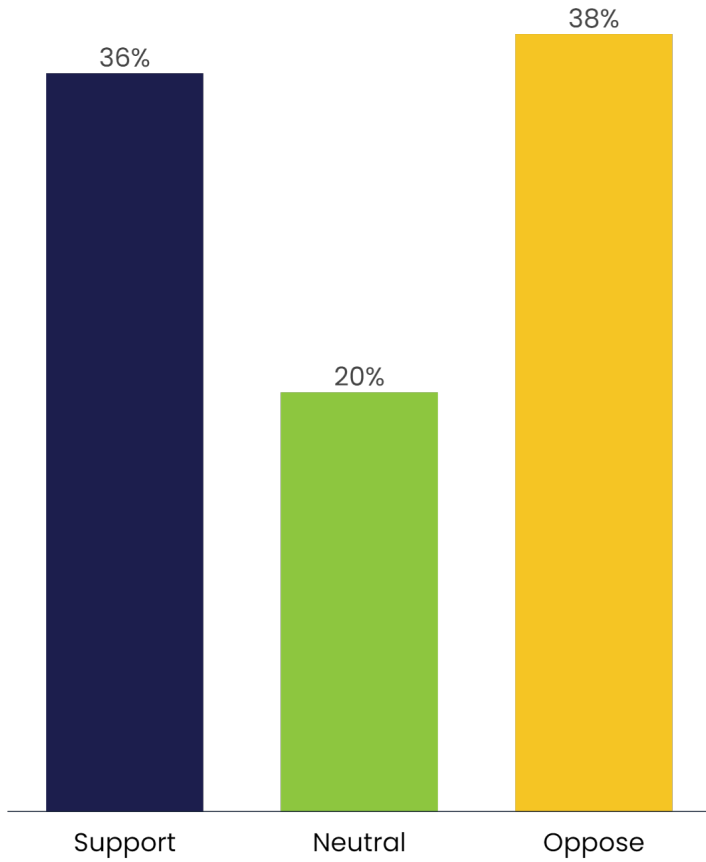
Verbatim responses on Do you support the proposal that Hutt City Council comprise a Mayor and 13 Councillors

Select desired filter from filter menu



Do you support the proposal that councillors be elected under a mixed system of representation of: 5 city wide Councillors, 7 Councillors from five General Wards and, 1 Māori Ward Councillor

Select desired filter from filter menu



It is proposed that Hutt City Council is made up of a Mayor and 13 councillors:

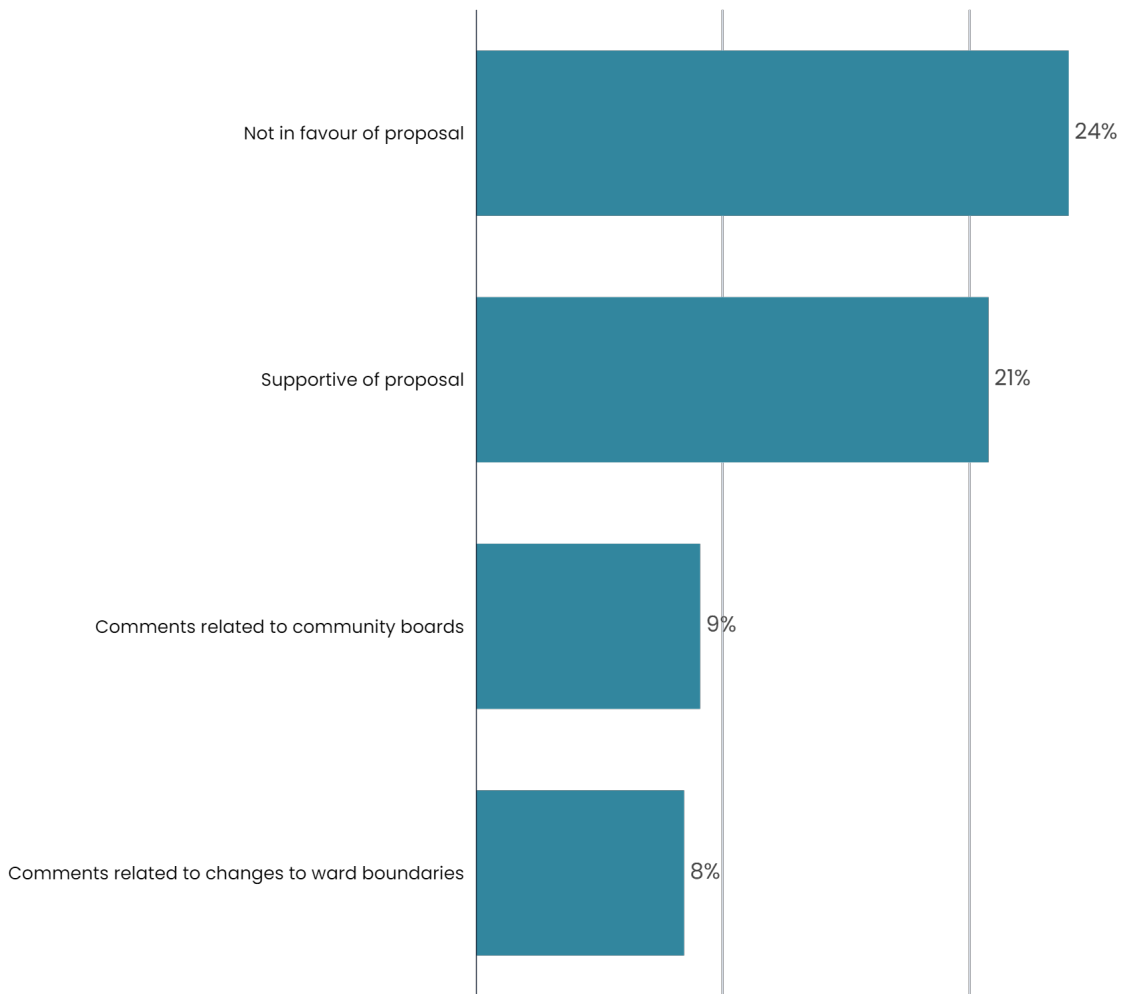


Ward	Communities
Northern General	Stokes Valley, Taita, Naenae, Avalon
Central General	Boulcott, Epuni, Fairfield, Waterloo, Hutt Central, Alicetown, Melling, Woburn, Waiwhetu
Western General	Manor Park, Belmont Park, Kelson, Belmont, Tirohanga, Normandale, Maungaraki
Harbour General	Korokoro, Petone, Moera, Gracefield, Eastern Bays, Eastbourne
Wainuiomata General	Arakura, Glendale, Homedale, Pencarrow, Wainuiomata

See Map for proposed General Ward boundaries

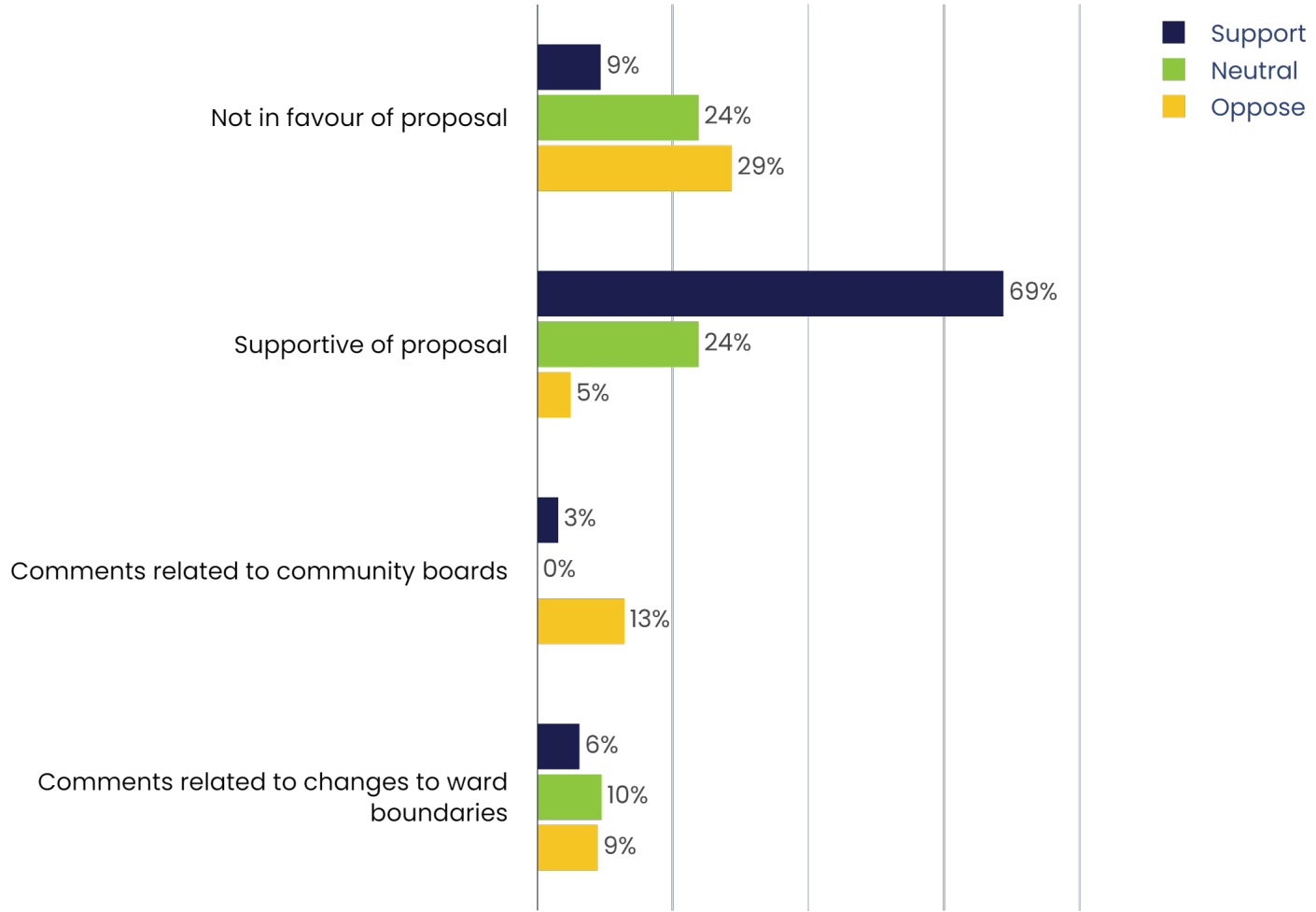
Verbatim responses on Do you support the proposal that councillors be elected under a mixed system of representation of:5 city wide Councillors,7 Councillors from five General Wards and,1 Māori Ward Councillor

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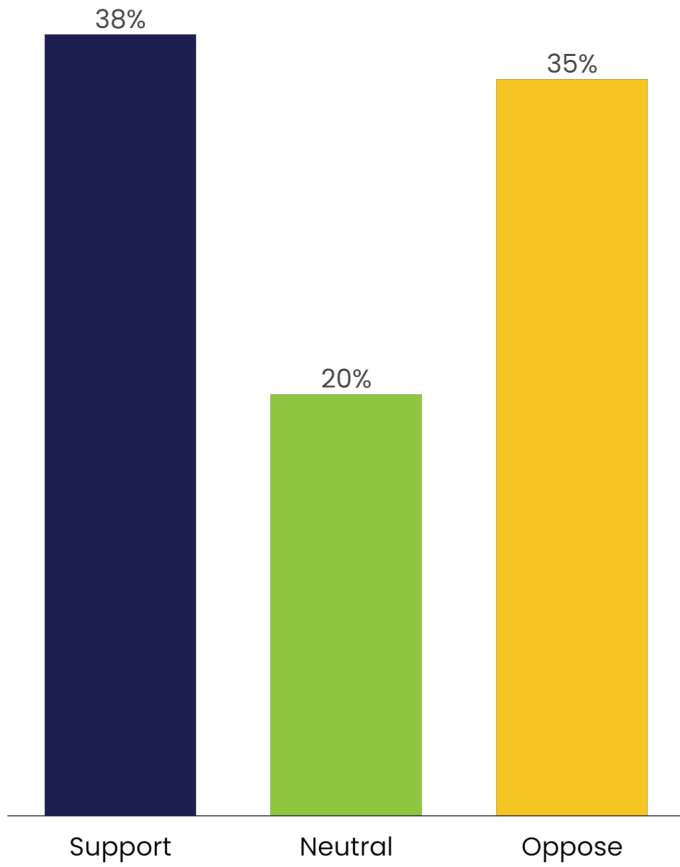
Verbatim responses on Do you support the proposal that councillors be elected under a mixed system of representation of:5 city wide Councillors,7 Councillors from five General Wards and,1 Māori Ward Councillor

Select desired filter from filter menu

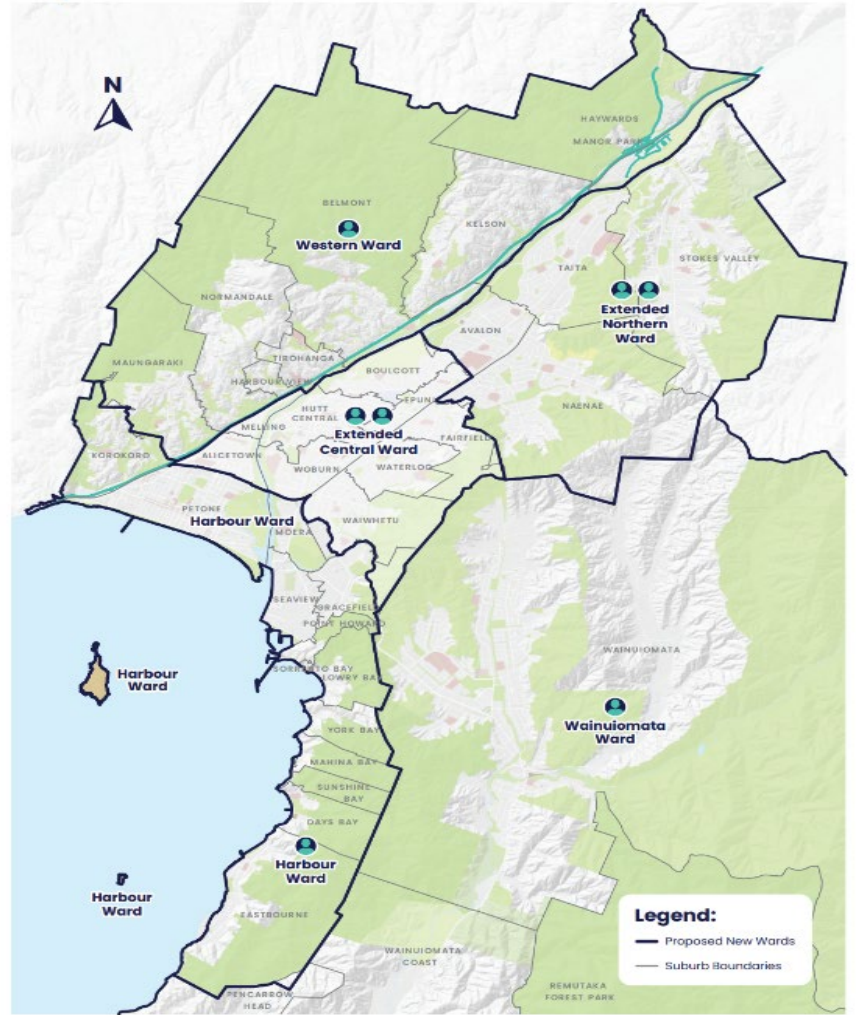


Do you support the proposal that the 5 General Wards be made up as follows?)

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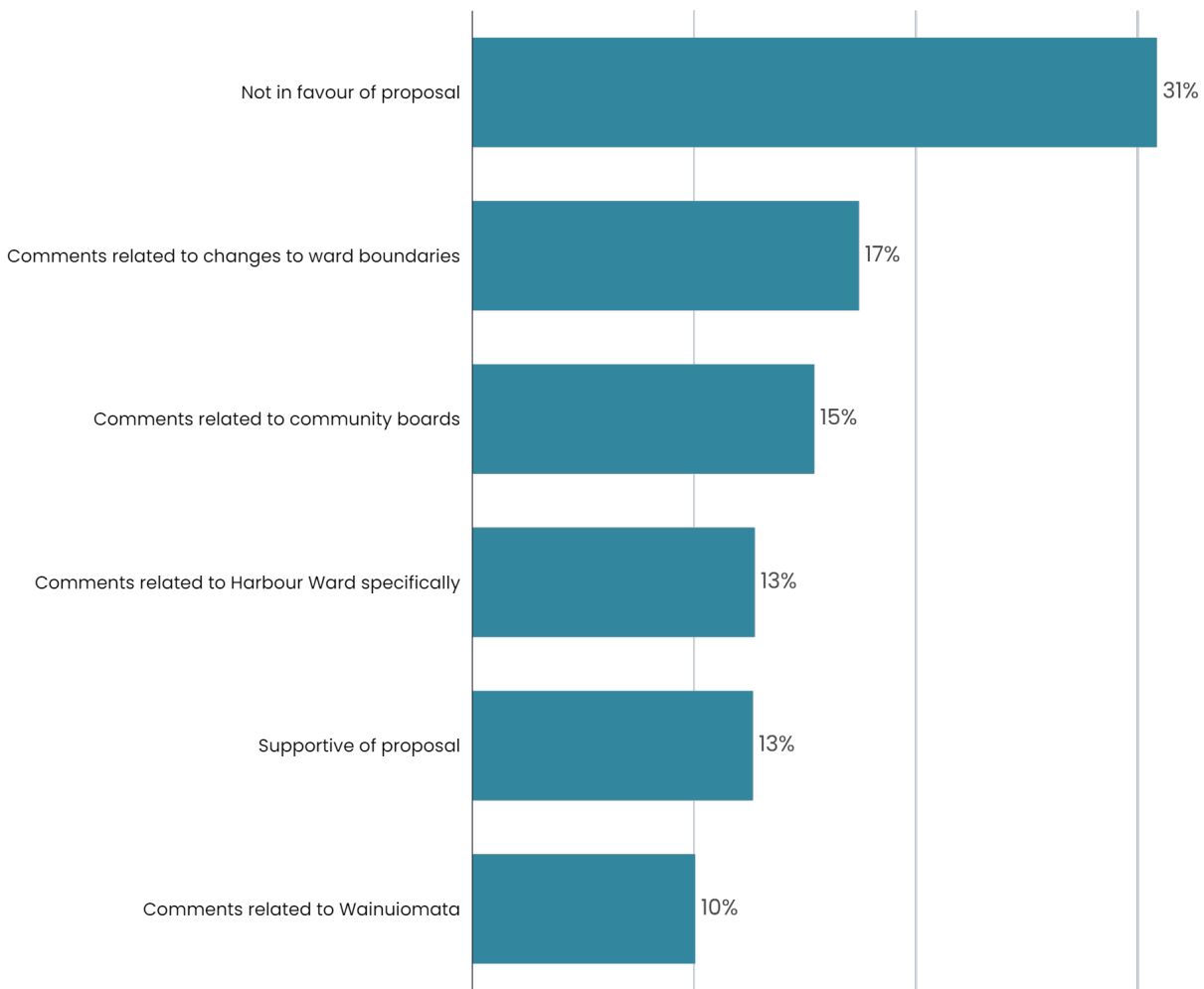


Proposed General Wards



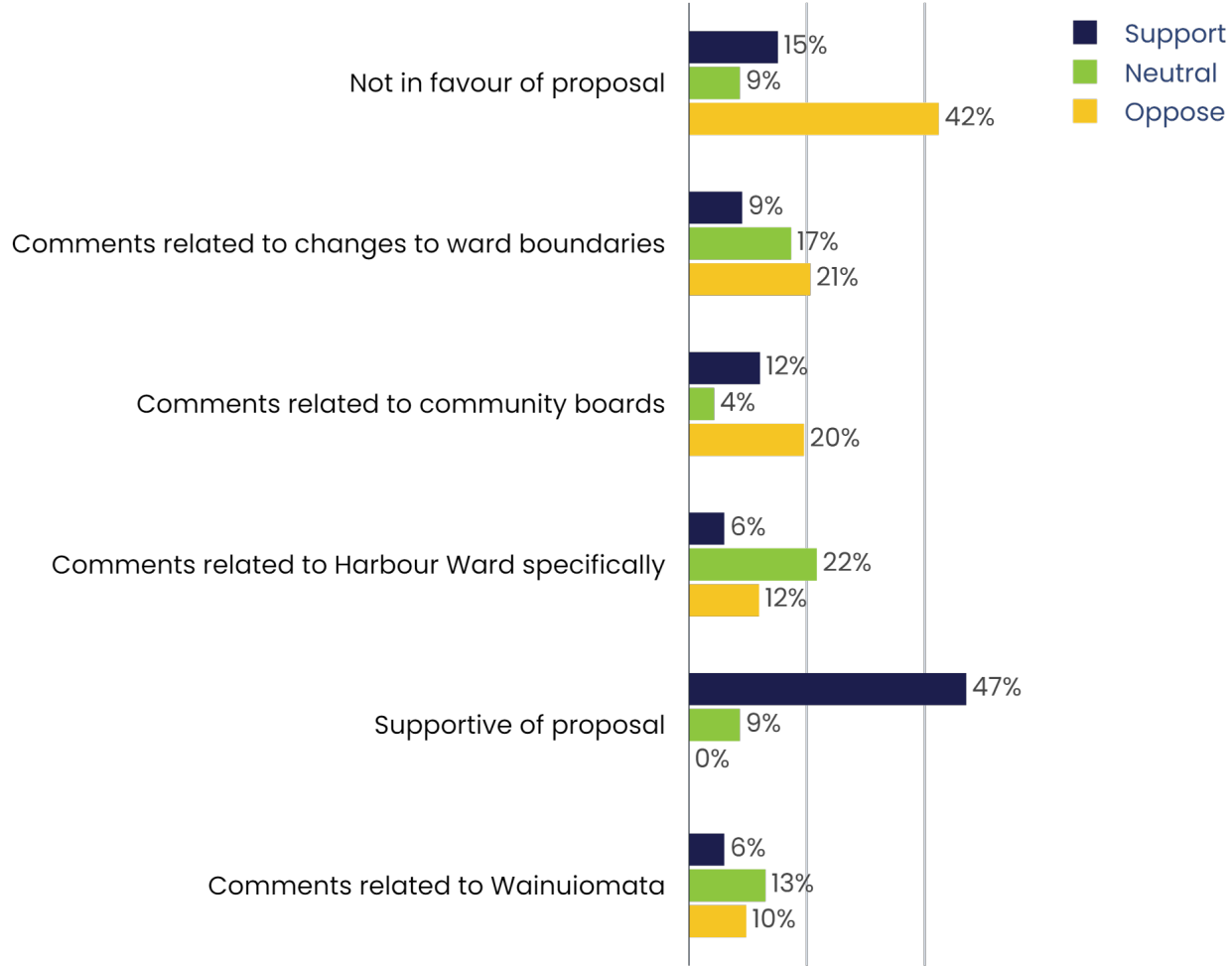
Verbatim responses on Do you support the proposal that the 5 General Wards be made up as follows:)

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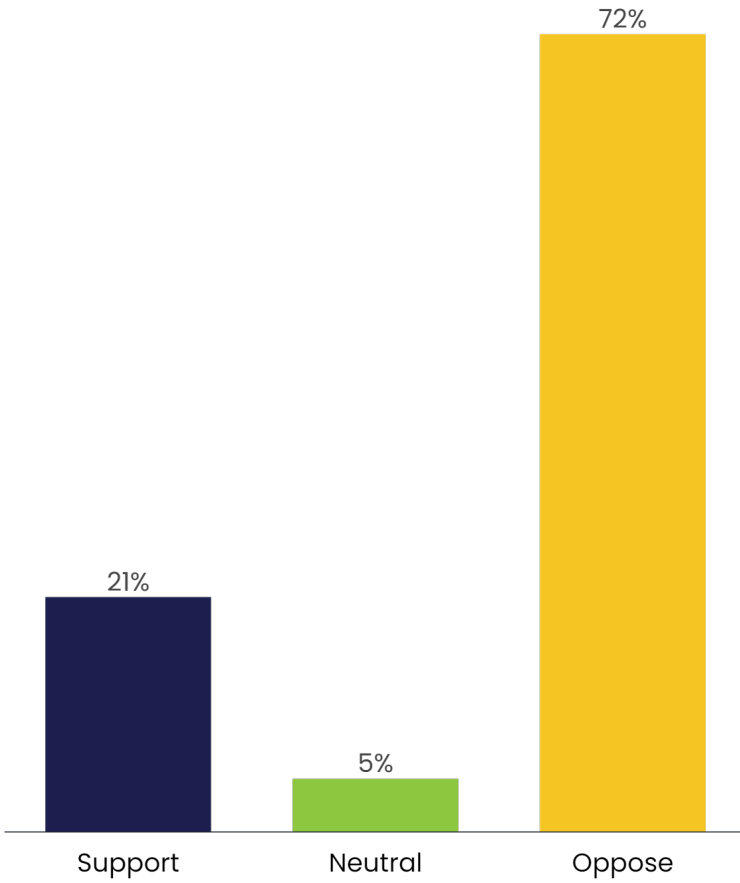
Verbatim responses on Do you support the proposal that the 5 General Wards be made up as follows:)

Select desired filter from filter menu



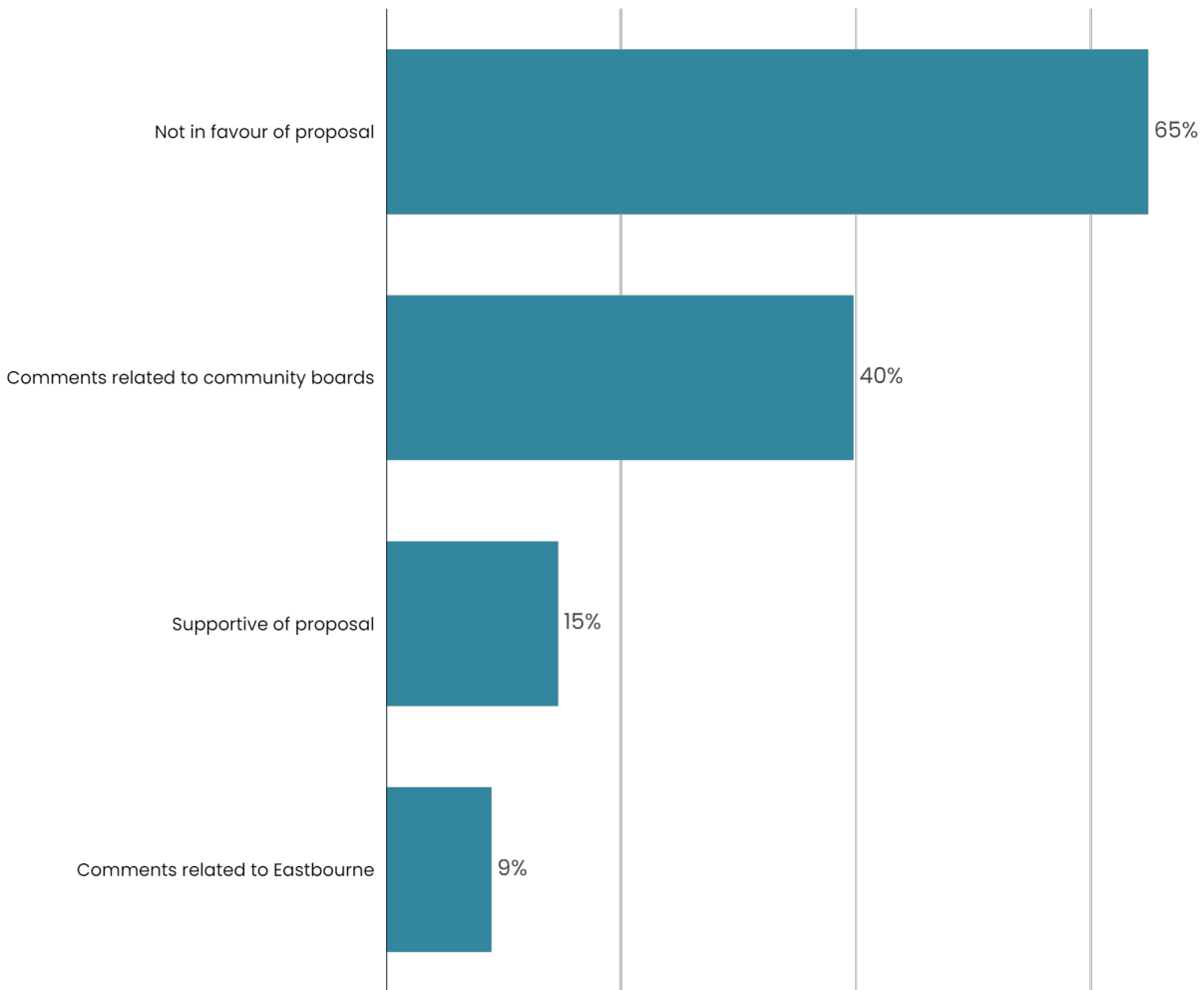
Do you support the proposal that there be no Community Boards in Te Awa Kairangi ki Tai Lower Hutt, and the three existing Community Boards (Petone, Eastbourne and Wainuiomata) be disestablished?

Select desired filter from filter menu



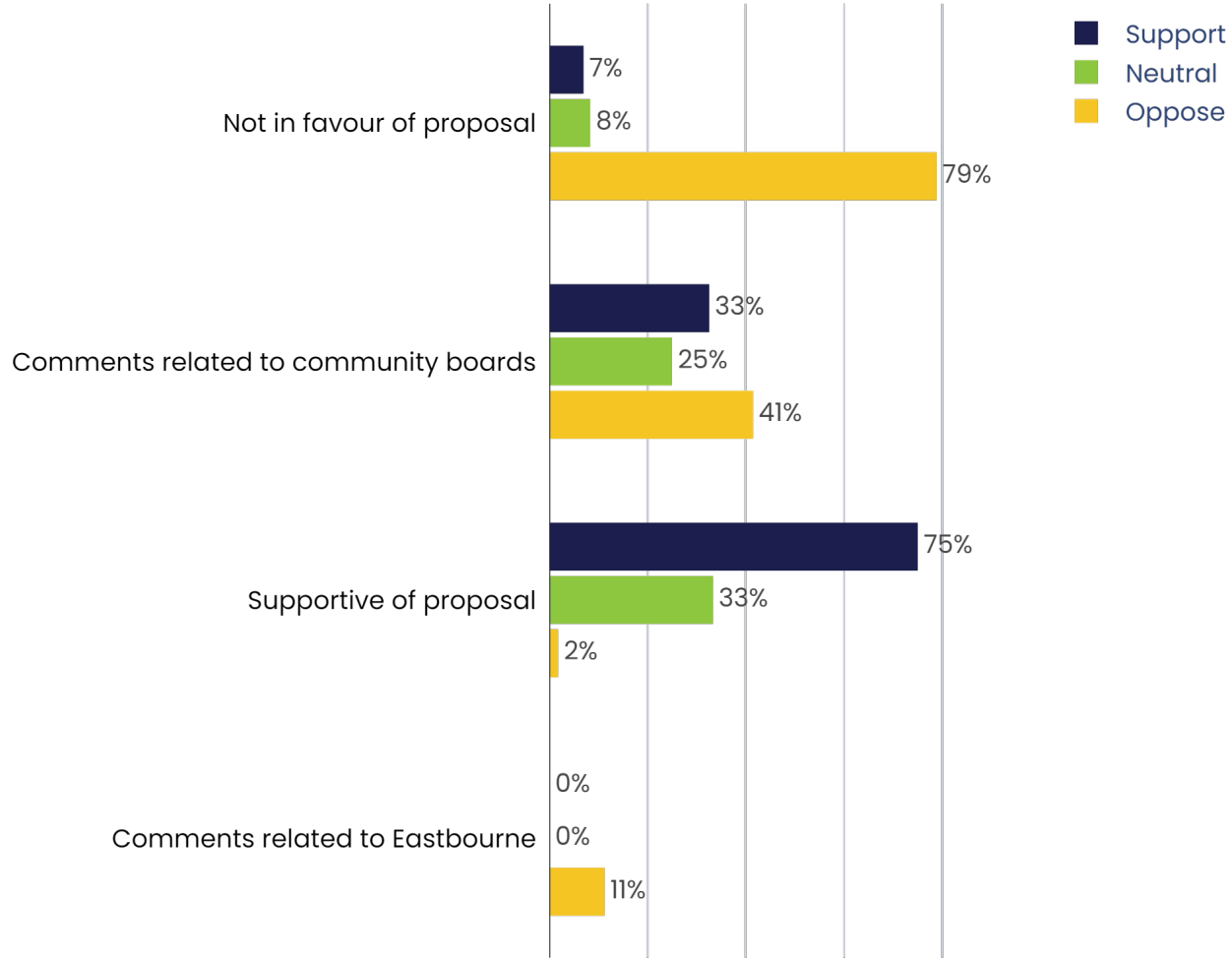
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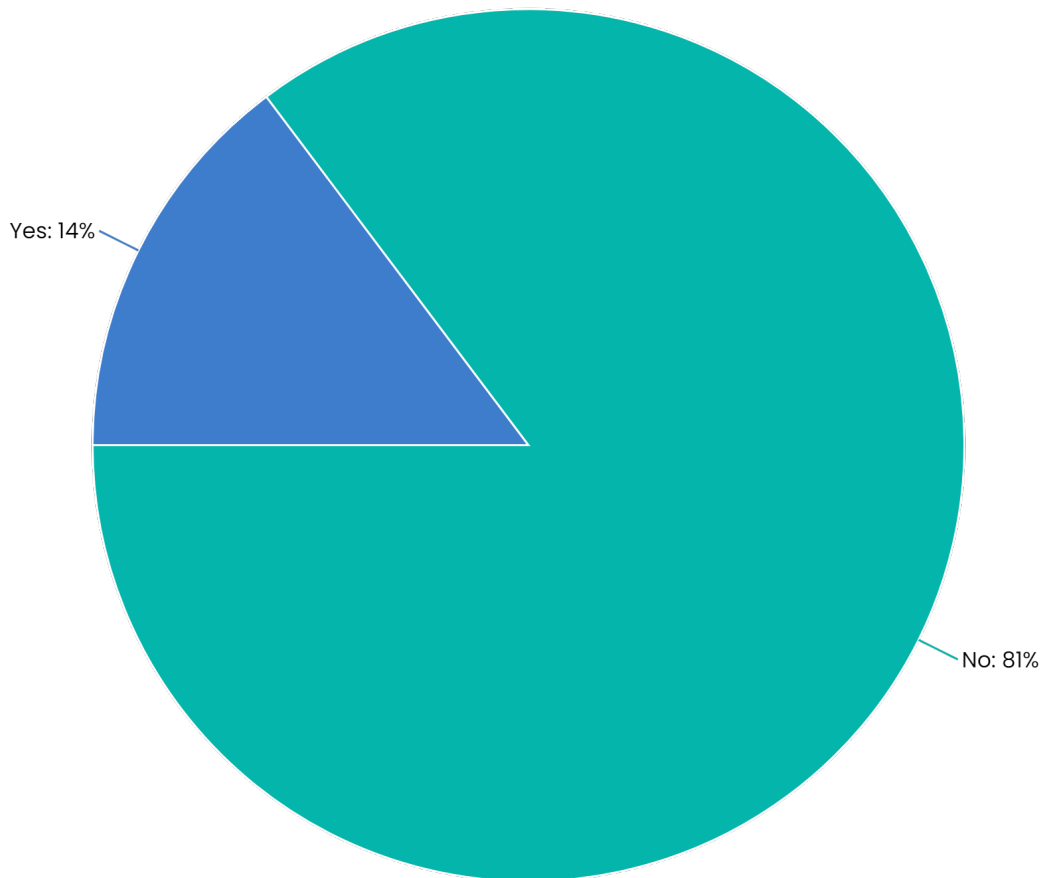
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Would like to present your feedback direct to Councillors at a Representation Review Hearing? (in person or through Zoom)

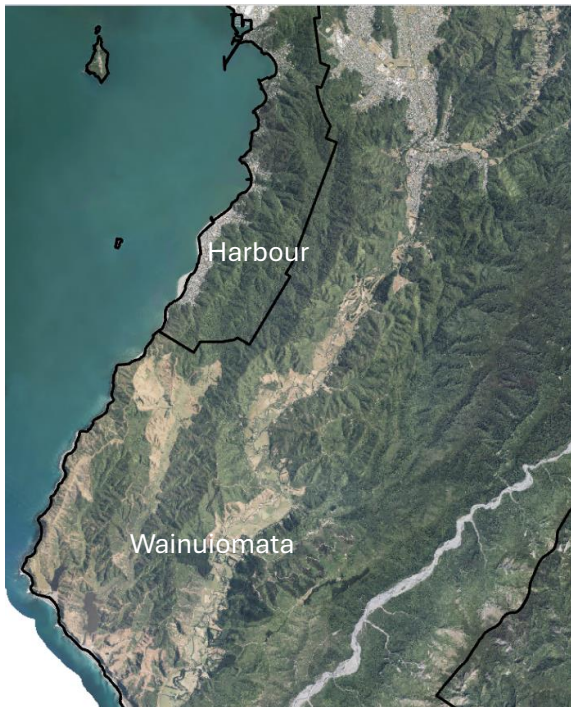




Thank You!

Appendix 3: Proposed change to the Harbour and Wainuiomata ward boundaries

a. Current boundaries



b. Proposed boundaries to include the area from Burdan's gate to Pencarrow lighthouse in the Harbour ward





Hutt City Council

Final proposal for representation arrangements for the 2025 local elections

On 10 September 2024 Hutt City Council considered submissions received on the initial proposal regarding representation arrangements for Council Community Boards to apply for the local elections to be held on 11 October 2025.

Hutt City Council received 370 valid submissions on its proposal:

- 134 submissions supported and 116 submissions opposed that Hutt City Council comprise a Mayor and 13 Councillors.
- 132 submissions were in favour and 139 submissions opposed that Councillors be elected under a mixed system of representation.
- 139 submissions were supported and 131 opposed proposed boundaries for 5 General wards.
- 79 submissions were in favour and 268 opposed that Community Boards be disestablished.

Comments shared in objection to various elements of the proposal are summarised as follows:

- 132 submitters said they wanted to retain the Eastbourne Community Board
- 125 submitters said they wanted to retain Community Boards
- 76 submitters said they didn't support adding a Māori ward
- 61 submitters said that Community Boards should be extended to all wards
- 35 submitters said 13 Councillors and a Mayor are too many
- 26 submitters said they wanted to retain the Wainuiomata Community Board
- 22 submitters said they prefer to retain the status quo
- 21 submitters said they didn't support some wards having two representatives, saying representation is uneven
- 20 submitters said that Wainuiomata was underrepresented

- 16 submitters said they wanted to retain the Petone Community Board
- 11 submitters said they preferred ward Councillors only
- 10 submitters said they preferred At-large Councillors only
- 10 submitters said that the Harbour ward should have 2 Councillors
- 8 submitters said they didn't want to lose the Eastern ward
- 7 submitters said 13 Councillors and a Mayor was not enough people to do a big job
- 6 submitters suggested a combined Harbour ward Community Board
- 4 submitters said there should be more than one Māori ward
- 1 submitter suggested a part-time Wainuiomata ward Councillor to support the bigger population
- 1 submitter said that Community Boards should be given more powers
- 1 submitter said there are too many wards
- 1 submitter said Council should be looking at amalgamation with Wellington City Council and Porirua City Council to create a super city.

Final proposal

Having considered all of the objections, Council resolved to adopt its initial proposal as Council's final proposal, subject to the following amendment:

- extending the Harbour Ward to include the area south of Burdan's Gate to Pencarrow lighthouse.

Council considered this change appropriate for the following reasons:

- submissions presented a compelling case that the area south of Burdan's Gate better aligns with the functional dimension of the community of interest in Eastbourne rather than Wainuiomata due to its geographically-bound accessibility constraint

Council rejected the other matters raised in objection for the following reasons:

Submission Theme	Number of comments	Proposed response
Council should retain Eastbourne Community Board	132	

Council should retain Community Boards	125	
Council should not add a Māori ward	76	
Council should extend Community Boards to all wards	61	
Council should have fewer Councillors	35	
Council should retain Wainuiomata Community Board	26	
Council should maintain the status quo	22	
Representation should be one ward Councillor per General ward only	21	
Council should add another Councillor to the Wainuiomata General ward	20	
Council should retain Petone Community Board	16	
Council should be made up of ward Councillors only	11	
Council should be made up of At-Large Councillors only	10	

Council should add another Councillor to the Harbour General ward	10	
Council should retain the Eastern ward	8	
Council should have a greater number of Councillors	7	
Council should create a combined Harbour ward Community Board	6	
Council should establish more than one Māori ward	4	
Council should create a part-time Wainuiomata Councillor	1	
Council should give Community Boards more powers	1	
Council should reduce the number of wards	1	
Council should be considering amalgamation	1	

Therefore, the final proposal is as follows.

Council representation

Hutt City Council is made up of a Mayor and 13 Councillors:

- 7 Councillors elected from 5 General wards
- 5 Councillors elected at-large from across the city
- 1 Councillor elected from Mana Kairangi ki Tai Māori Ward

WARD	COMMUNITIES
Northern General Ward	Stokes Valley, Taita, Naenae, Avalon
Central General Ward	Boulcott, Epuni, Fairfield, Waterloo, Hutt Central, Alicetown, Melling, Woburn, Waiwhetu
Western General Ward	Manor Park, Belmont Park, Kelson, Belmont, Tirohanga, Normandale, Maungaraki
Harbour General Ward	Korokoro, Petone, Moera, Gracefield, Eastern Bays, Eastbourne
Wainuiomata General Ward	Arakura, Glendale, Homedale, Pencarrow, Wainuiomata

The population that councillors will represent is as follows:

WARD	POPULATION	COUNCILLOR/S	POPULATION PER COUNCILLOR
Northern General Ward	27,500	2	13,750
Central General Ward	27,500	2	13,750
Western General Ward	13,950	1	13,950
Harbour General Ward	15,700	1	15,700
Wainuiomata General Ward	16,600	1	16,600

In accordance with section 19V(2), of the Local Electoral Act 2001, the population that each councillor represents must be within the range of 14,750 +/-10% (13,275

to 16,225), unless particular community of interest considerations justify otherwise.

Wainuiomata General Ward falls outside the stipulated range (16,600 or 12.54%). Council considers that it is necessary to avoid dividing the Wainuiomata General ward for the following reason:

- to avoid separating communities of interest or, uniting within one ward, communities of interest with few commonalities.

Community board representation

There be no community boards in Lower Hutt and the three existing community boards be disestablished.

Appeals and objections

Any person who made a submission on the Council's initial proposal may lodge an appeal against the Council's decision. An appeal must relate to the matters raised in that person's submission.

Any person who objects to the final proposal may lodge an objection to the Council's final proposal. Any objection must identify the matters to which the objection relates.

Appeals [and objections] must be made in writing and must be received by Council no later than 12 October 2024.

Appeals [and objections] must be sent to:

Email: haveyoursay@huttcity.govt.nz

Post/physical address: Hutt City Council Administration Building, 30 Laings Road Lower Hutt

Further information

Visit our website:

[Hutt.city/Repreview](https://hutt.city/Repreview)

Direct enquiries regarding Council's decision can be made in the following ways:

Ph: 04 570 6666

Email: Haveyoursay@huttcity.govt.nz

Joanna Miller
Chief Executive
11 September 2024