



# Briefing: Te Manu Karere | Māori Wards

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**8 November 2023 – 4.04pm**

## Attendees

**Elected Members:** Mayor Barry, Cr Barratt, Cr Briggs (via audio-visual link), , Cr Dyer, Cr Edwards, Deputy Mayor Lewis, Cr Mitchell, Cr Morgan, Cr Parkin, Cr Shaw, Cr Stallinger (via audio-visual link), Cr Tupou; K Yung, (Petone Community Board) Te Awa Puketapu (WCB via audio-visual link)

**Staff:** J Miller, Chief Executive; J Griffiths, Director Strategy and Engagement; A Blackshaw, Director Neighbourhoods and Communities; K Butler-Hare, Tumuaiki Māori – Chief Māori Officer; C Parish, Head of Mayor's Office; C Ellis, Head of Chief Executive's Office; R Hardie, Head of Strategy and Policy; R Houlbrooke, Policy Lead; K Stannard, Head of Democratic Services; K Glanville, Senior Democracy Advisor (via audio-visual link).

**Mana Whenua:** Kura Moeahu, Wirangi Luke and Peggy Luke-Ngaheke from Te Rūnanganui o Te Āti Awa

**Also present:** Paul Swain, Independent Chair of the Representation Review Panel

## Apologies

Cr Brown

## Presenters

R Hardie, Head of Strategy and Policy; and H Houppapa, Senior Policy Advisor.

## Introduction and Key Objectives of the Briefing

The purpose of the briefing is to update Council about the feedback received through the consultation on the establishment of Māori wards.

## Presentation by R Hardie, Head of Strategy and Policy

### Slide 1 - (Header)

**Slide 2 – The purpose of this presentation is to brief you on** – additional documentation has been circulated: Themes from hui and Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's)

**Slide 3 – Council must consider whether to establish Māori wards**

**Slide 4 – Neighbouring Councils' decisions**

**Slide 5 – The engagement approach** – engagement taking place from August to November 2023

**Slide 6 – Levels of participation**

**Slide 7 – Wide range of feedback received – themes were**

**Slide 8 – Next steps**

## Questions and discussion points

- If geographical wards in Lower Hutt were removed and moved to a city at-large voting system, Māori ward(s) would not be impacted.

- If a voter is listed on the Māori electoral roll, they would vote for a representative in the Māori ward and city at-large representatives.
- There are approximately 12,000 voters on the Māori electoral roll in Lower Hutt.
- The Independent Representation Review Panel will consider whether one or more Māori wards in Lower Hutt are established.
- Kura Moeahu and Peggy Luke-Ngaheke spoke in support of the establishment of Māori wards. They noted that regardless of the decision that Council makes and who is sitting around the Council table, Mana Whenua will always be here.
- Mayor Barry noted that Liz Mellish, Ngahuru Charitable Trust (Wellington Tenth Trust | Palmerston North Māori Reserve Trust) and Callum Katene, Te Rūnanga o Toa Rangatira supported the establishment of Māori wards. They also noted the importance of Council and Mana Whenua relationships.

## Next steps

- The Policy, Finance and Strategy Committee meeting on 21 November 2023 will consider the feedback and make a recommendation to Council.
- The Council meeting on 21 November 2023 will decide whether to establish Māori wards.
- Council's decision will feed into the representation review through the Independent Panel.

## Briefing materials

**Attachment 1** – Presentation: Māori Wards engagement and next steps Nov 2023  
FINAL

Additional documentation: Māori Wards FAQs and Māori Wards Themes from Hui

**The briefing closed at 4.45pm**