



Te Manu Karere Māori Wards

Engagement and next steps



The purpose of this presentation is to brief you on:

- Where other councils have landed
- Our engagement approach on the question of Māori wards
- The feedback received
- The timeline and next steps for making a decision



Council must consider whether to establish Māori wards

Under the Local Electoral Act 2001 – Council must:

- Resolve whether to have Māori wards 2 years before the next triennial election (i.e. by 23 November 2023)
- Consider the views of Mana Whenua



Neighbouring Councils decisions

- Wellington City Council – already has a Māori ward
- Porirua City Council – already has a Māori ward
- Greater Wgtn Regional Council – 26 October decided to establish Māori ward
- Upper Hutt City Council – 1 November decided to establish Māori ward
- Kapiti Coast District Council – 14 November will consider question



The engagement approach

- Mana whenua view: Given complexity of issues – clear information and education was needed to assist engagement
- Our process aimed to both inform and seek feedback
- Combination of face-to-face and online engagement



Levels of participation

- Three publicly advised hui:
 - Hikoikoi Kaumatua Rōpū hui – 40 participants
 - Waiwhetu Marae hui – 37 participants
 - Naenae Community space – 8 participants
- Online:
 - “Korero Mai – Have Your Say” – 25 participants



Wide range of feedback received – themes were:

- Do not undermine the existing Mana Whenua relationships
- The importance of Treaty relationships
- Guaranteed representation
- Single voice representing Māori
- Māori participation in local government



Next steps

- 21 November: Policy Finance and Strategy Committee considers feedback
- 21 November: Full Council decides whether to establish Māori wards
- December: Council decision feeds into representation review (through the Independent Panel)
- July 2024: Council considers Independent Panel representation recommendations

