

# Extra-ordinary Whangarei District Council

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## Notice of Meeting

A extra-ordinary meeting of the Whangarei District Council will be held in the Council Chamber, Forum North, Whangarei on:

**Thursday  
30 August 2012  
12.00pm**

## Committee

His Worship the Mayor (Chairperson)  
Cr C B Christie  
Cr S J Deeming  
Cr A J Edwards  
Cr S M Glen  
Cr P R Halse  
Cr J S Jongejans  
Cr G M Martin  
Cr B L McLachlan  
Cr S L Morgan  
Cr K J Sutherland  
Cr W L Syers  
Cr M R Williams  
Cr J D T Williamson

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# 1. 2012 Representation Arrangements Review

**Reporting officer** Kathryn Candy (Legal Counsel)

**Date** 20 August 2012

***Vision, mission and values***

*This item is in accord with Council's vision, mission and values statement*

**Local Government Act 2002 – The four well-beings**

**Cultural** Consideration of "communities of interest" in the District

**Economic** No direct link

**Environmental** No direct link

**Social** The representation arrangements review will consider the establishment of Community Boards as well as Electoral Wards, both of which have social implications

## Representation Arrangements Review

### Submissions:

In accordance with section 19M of the Local Electoral Act 2001, Council has given public notice of its proposal for review of representation arrangements for the triennial local authority elections to be held in 2013.

There was only one submission received by the closing date of Friday 17 August 2012 and that person wishes to be heard. A copy of their submission is attached. This Extra-ordinary Council meeting is the opportunity for Council to hear this submission.

The following is staff's summary of that submission:

- a) Okara ward to be divided into two - Onerahi/Riverside and Raumanga/Morningside/Otaika with two councillors each.
- b) Individualise Avenues, CBD, Maunu
- c) Establish local community boards
- d) Non basic works and infrastructure policy proposals to be put before community boards as a public referendum
- e) Include a process for when there is a loss of confidence of the community board in their elected councillor or local board member
- f) Amalgamation with the Regional Council/Kaipara District Council.

## Recommendation

That the submission be received and heard

*If necessary Council may be required to take a short adjournment to review any additional information provided by the submitter.*

**Deliberations:**

As Council has now heard the submission on this matter it must now, in accordance with Section 19N of the Local Electoral Act 2001 consider this submission and any further information provided at the hearing, and to deliberate on that submission.

The final proposal for the 2012 representation arrangements review will incorporate the decisions of Council and will be presented to Council for adoption at a subsequent Council meeting.

**Issues:**

The issues that Mr. Hedges has raised are now discussed in more detail. These comments are based on the written submission of Mr. Hedges and do not incorporate any oral submission or clarification that may have been made by Mr. Hedges at the hearing of his submission. Further comments may be provided by staff at the meeting to address any other issues raised at the hearing of the submission.

- a) Okara ward being divided into 2.

In Workshop 2 on 19 April 2012 Council considered (at Option 4) having three urban wards – North (which incorporated the now Denby ward plus some of Okara), Central (which included Onerahi, Riverside and the area from the North boundary down to Dent Street/Rust Avenue) and South (which included Raumanga, Morningside, Otaika). This option did effectively split the Okara ward in two. Council did not choose to explore this option further.

Council may wish to reconsider Option 4.

**Recommendation**

No change to the initial proposal

- b) Individualise Avenues, CBD and Maunu.

There has been no previous consideration of individualising the Avenues, CBD and Maunu as Council has not identified that there are any issues with the representation in these areas. This submission has provided no compelling reason why such areas should be individualised.

**Recommendation**

No change to the initial proposal

- c) Establish Community Boards.

Council have previously discussed the establishment of Community Boards and have commented that the current ward structure provides fair and effective representation to communities.

**Recommendation**

No change to the initial proposal

- d) Non basic works and infrastructure policy proposals to be put before community boards as a public referendum.

This representation arrangements review is not a forum for proposing changes to the way that proposals are dealt with by Council.

**Recommendation**

No change to the initial proposal

- e) Include a process for when there is a loss of confidence of the community board in their elected councillor or local board member.

This review does not cover such matters.

**Recommendation**

No change to the initial proposal

- f) Amalgamation with the Regional Council/Kaipara District.

This review does not cover any issues of amalgamation.

**Recommendation**

No change to the initial proposal

**Recommendation**

That having heard and deliberated on the one submission received, staff be directed to prepare the final proposal, for a further Council meeting to adopt the final proposal, based on these deliberations.

**Attachment:**

[Submission – Don Hedges \(TRIM Ref 12/59763\)](#)

DOC ID

Received  
Customer Services  
03 AUG 2012  
Whangarei  
District Council



# 2012 Representation Arrangements Review Submission Form

## Points to remember when making a submission

- Please print clearly. The form should be easy to read and be understood, and may need to be photocopied.
- We will respond in writing to every submission received. Please ensure that you provide appropriate contact details so that our response gets back to you.
- All submissions are considered public under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act, and may be published and made available to elected members and the public.
- Your submission will not be returned to you once it is lodged with Council. Please keep a copy for your reference.

## How to get this form to us

Mail to Representation Arrangements Review Submissions  
Whangarei District Council  
Private Bag 9023 WHANGAREI 0148

Fax to 09 438 7632

Email to mailroom@wdc.govt.nz



Your feedback should reach us by 4:30pm Friday 17 August 2012.

It is expected that the hearing of submissions will take place on Wednesday 29 August 2012. This will be confirmed after submissions have closed.

## Please enter your details below

Mr    Mrs    Ms    Miss    Dr

First name(s) Donald Mitchell

Last name HEDGES

Postal address 19 Limeburners St  
Whangarei

Best daytime phone number 094388849 Mobile \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

I am writing this submission (✓ box)  as an individual    on behalf of an organisation

Name of organisation \_\_\_\_\_

Would you like to present your submission in person? (✓ box)  Yes    No

Council is reviewing its representation arrangements in advance of the local body elections in 2013. You now have the opportunity to tell us what you think.

Please write your comments below.

Improved Responsive Local Community representation would be achieved if the Okara electoral district was divided into two separate community areas of local interests ie Onekahi and Riverside as one and Raumanga/Morningside/Ofakira

as the other with two elected councillors each.

Avenues CBD and Maunui would be another better individualized.

Local Community Boards should be established to nominate their candidate of choice as a councillor. All residents of a ward would be members of those communities to raise local and district wide issues for consideration and adoption for a remit to present to the council at public forum hearings.

Non basic works and infrastructure policy proposals i.e. Hunwasser Art Centre, should be put before the community boards as a public referendum that is binding on the elected council to abide by during their term of office.

If a community board loses confidence in their elected councillor or local board member they can censure them and request their resignation as not acting in the direction of their local board or district's interests.

An amalgamation with the Regional Council body would be economically beneficial to reduce rates burden. The Kaipara district could also be included in that amalgamation.

*P M Aedges*  
Signature

04-08-2012  
Date