

From: Will Gauntlett William.Gauntlett@waide.govt.nz

Subject: Community Board & Community Committee Update

Date: 30 January 2026 at 10:06 AM

To: Eden Wawatai – Huntly Community Board eden.wawatai@gmail.com, Kiri Morgan kirimorgan18@gmail.com, chair@ngaamuka.com, Allen Grainger allen_grainger@outlook.com, Raglan Community Board Chair Raglan.Chair@waide.govt.nz, Rural-Port Waikato Community Board Chair Rural-PortWaikato.Chair@waide.govt.nz, TCC Sec (Charles Fletcher) tamaherecommunity@gmail.com, Taupiri Community Board Chair Taupiri.Chair@waide.govt.nz, tim.hinton3698@gmail.com, Tuakau Community Board Chair Tuakau.Chair@waide.govt.nz

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Kia ora All

Hope you've all had a good break over summer.

Council has set a clear direction to empower communities and strengthen engagement by looking at how decision-making and influence over council activities can be exercised at the most appropriate local level.

Some responsibilities have already been delegated to you - such as road naming - which will begin from this first round of community board and community committee meetings. As these delegations take effect, the organisation's role also shifts. Rather than decisions being made through council or its committees, we will now support you to make these decisions confidently, effectively and with appropriate process. This shift also brings added complexity for some parts of the organisation as they work alongside you to progress local priorities and perspectives.

To support this, we are adjusting our ways of working to ensure you have what you need to succeed. That support comes from our people. In this space, one of the changes being made is that senior leaders in the organisation rather than members of the Executive Team will be performing the role of lead officers supporting our community boards and committees. This means more dedicated attention. Our priority is ensuring we have the right staff, equipped to provide you with reliable advice, consistent service, and strong connections back into the wider organisation. **Table of the updated support below.**

This is a journey we are just beginning. We are preparing staff to support you from the outset, but as with any change, some early challenges are to be expected. We are committed to working through these together and getting things right.

At the same time, staff continue to consider where further local decision making or increased local influence over council functions could be appropriate, ensuring our approach reflects community priorities. Any changes to delegations or terms of reference will continue to follow council's usual decision-making processes.

Our new senior leader representatives will get in touch with Chairs prior to the first meetings.

Board / Committee	Chair	Senior Leader	Democracy Advisor
Huntly Community Board	Eden Wawatai eden.wawatai@gmail.com	Wade Hill Development Support Manager Wade.Hill@waide.govt.nz	Thomas Rowland Democracy@waide.govt.nz
Ngaaruawahia Community Board	Kiri Morgan kirimorgan18@gmail.com	Michelle Brown Strategic Property Manager michelle.brown@waikatodc.govt.nz	Saveeta Chandar Democracy@waide.govt.nz
Meremere Community Committee	Hayden Solomon – chair@ngaamuka.com	Kirsty Wellington Enterprise Project Management Office Manager kirsty.wellington@waikatodc.govt.nz	Liz Saunders Democracy@waide.govt.nz
Pokeno Community Committee	Allen Grainger allen_grainger@outlook.com	Will Gauntlett General Manager - Strategy & Growth William.Gauntlett@waide.govt.nz	Liz Saunders Democracy@waide.govt.nz
Raglan Community Board	Ross Wallis RaglanCommunityBoardChair@waide.govt.nz	Nicole Hubbard Strategy & Corporate Planning Manager Nicole.Hubbard@waide.govt.nz	Saveeta Chandar Democracy@waide.govt.nz
Rural-Port Waikato Community Board	Leah Fry Rural-PortWaikatoCommunityBoardChair@waide.govt.nz	Kim Parker Community & Business Sustainability Manager kimberley.parker@waikatodc.govt.nz	Thomas Rowland Democracy@waide.govt.nz
Tamahere Community Committee	Charles Fletcher tamaherecommunity@gmail.com	Rochelle Deane Regulatory Services Manager Rochelle.Deane@waide.govt.nz	Liz Saunders Democracy@waide.govt.nz
Taupiri Community Board	Rosemary Spragg taupiri.chair@waide.govt.nz	JP Velloen Land Development Engineering Manager JP.Velloen@waide.govt.nz	Saveeta Chandar Democracy@waide.govt.nz
Te Kauwhata Community Committee	Tim Hinton tim.hinton3698@gmail.com	Kui Barnsdall Strategic Initiatives & Partnerships Manager Kuairangi.Barnsdall@waide.govt.nz	Liz Saunders Democracy@waide.govt.nz
Tuakau Community Board	Christopher Betty tuakau.chair@waide.govt.nz	Attinder Singh Transport Operations Manager Attinder.Singh@waide.govt.nz	Thomas Rowland Democracy@waide.govt.nz

Any questions, please reach out.

Cheers,
Will

Will Gauntlett

General Manager, Strategy & Growth

Waikato District Council

Te Kaunihera aa Takiwaa o Waikato

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We're closing for the holidays

Our offices and libraries will close at 3pm on
December 24, and will reopen on January 8.

You can still contact us on 0800 492 452.