

TITLE

WDC REPRESENTATION REVIEW 2018 -
INITIAL PROPOSAL CONSULTATION SUMMARY
STACEY SOLOMON – JUNIOR CORPORATE PLANNER



Council is required by Section 19 of the Local Electoral Act 2001 (LEA) to review its representation arrangements at least once every six years. Council is also required as a part of the representation review process to consult with the community on its proposed representation arrangements using the special consultative procedure, as set out in Section 83 of the Local Government Act 2002 (LGA).

The following preliminary work was undertaken before making and notifying the Representation Review Initial Proposal:

DATE	ACTION	STATUTORY PROVISIONS
19 June 2017	Workshop with Council on initial proposal.	Nil
21 March 2018	Workshop with Council on initial proposal.	Nil
16 April 2018	Early engagement online survey distributed to key stakeholders (iwi, businesses, community boards and committees, community groups).	Nil
23 April 2018	Workshop on the initial proposal with RCB, Raglan Chamber of Commerce at Raglan Town Hall.	Nil
23 April 2018	Workshop on the initial proposal with TCC, Matangi Community Committee, Tauwhare Community Committee Newstead Residents Association at Tamahere Hall.	Nil
24 April 2018	Workshop on initial proposal with OTCB, PCC, PWRRA, TKCC, MCC, Mercer Resident and Ratepayer Association at Pokeno Hall.	Nil
26 April 2018	Workshop on initial proposal with NCB, HCB, Taupiri Community Board, Whatawhata Residents and Ratepayers Association, Te Kowhai Community Group, in Council Offices, Ngaruawahia.	Nil
27 April 2018	Workshop on initial proposal with Iwi in Council Offices, Ngaruawahia.	Nil
7 May 2018	Additional meeting with OTCB prior to their May 2018 Community Board meeting at Tuakau Memorial Hall to clarify proposal to split the OTCB.	Nil
15 May 2018	Workshop with Council on initial proposal.	Nil

The following consultation process was undertaken in notifying the Initial Proposal:

11 June 2018	Report to Council; Council resolves Initial Proposal.	Sec 19H & J of LEA
20 June 2018	<p>Council notifies Initial Proposal; six week consultation period opens.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public Notice made. Posted online to WDC website, advert also placed in Waikato Times, Franklin County news and Raglan Chronicle. Community Boards and Committees Chairpersons, Community Groups and Ratepayer Associations directly contacted via email with all consultation material and description of process (consultation letter, summary of initial proposal, statement of proposal including submission form, map of proposed ward boundary changes, map of proposed changes to OTCB, link to the online submission collector and link to the consultation page on the website). All consultation material made available at Council offices and Libraries. Social Media Posts – made on Council's Facebook and Twitter pages. Council media release distributed to Councils media contacts. 	<p>Sec 19M(1) LEA and Sec 83 LGA</p> <p>[Council is only required by SCP process to consult for 1 month, not six weeks]</p>
25 June 2018	Page in June 2018 LINK on the Representation Review. Outlines process of the review, the initial proposal, gives consultation details and outline of the "next steps". Close to 30,000 copies of the LINK are distributed throughout the Waikato district directly to mailboxes and PO boxes.	Nil

1 August 2018	Consultation period closes.	Section 19M (2)(d) LEA and Section 83 LGA
29 August 2018	Public Hearing on the Waikato District Council 2018 Representation Review Initial Proposal. At a time following the hearing, Council considers submissions and may make a resolution to amend their Initial Proposal.	Section 19N (1)(a) LEA

Council will then undertake the following in notifying their Final Proposal:

12 September 2018	Council notifies Final Proposal for a period of objections/appeals	Section 19N (1)(b) LEA
12 October 2018	Period for objections/appeals closes.	Section 19O & 19P LEA

If Council receives no objections/appeals to the Final Proposal, the proposal is then confirmed. A public notice to this effect will be placed (Section 19Y(1) LEA).

By 10 April 2019 the Local Government Commission will make its determination.

2019 Local Government Elections take place.

Tuakau Districts Development Association.

The TDDA supports the formulation of a Tuakau Community Board.

We have read the submissions & sympathise with the "Over The River Communities" regarding the lack of consultations, funding & representation.

Firstly the TDDA are surprised by the lack of consultation regarding this proposal. The notification of this very important change was very Low Key.

In principle the TDDA supports the formulation of a Tuakau Community Board.

Tuakau has had poor funding from the WDC.

The TDDA is made up of volunteers who are currently few as many of our members have migrated to the OTCB to attain better representation for the town.

The Population of Tuakau is expected to reach 25-40,000 within the next 2 decades.

We see the formation of a Community Board as a minor stepping stone to the formation of a City Council as Tuakau's & Pokeno's population explodes.

Tuakau & Pokeno will likely merge absorbing Whangarata along with new industrial development areas to the West & East of Tuakau & residential developments proposed to the North & East of Tuakau.

The TDDA wishes to see WDC initiate a "Bids Funding System" used to fund local organisations as is done by Auckland Council eg: Waiuku & Pukekohe Business Associations are funded via a targeted rate on businesses.

The TDDA used to receive Council funding when Tuakau was in Franklin District.

Funding for the TDDA has been literally non existent under the WDC except a small amount of funds made available for the installation of CCTV security camera's & to fund the Graffiti Cleanup Team.

The development of Tuakau has lagged behind other area's as WDC has focused their gaze on Te-Kauwhata & Pokeno. The TDDA has submitted year after year for projects such as the rail station reinstatement & other essential infrastructure with mediocre success.

The demands & focus of the OTCB has been too spread to serve the requirements of the Tuakau Township in the face of our over flowing nieghbours AUCKLAND.

Tuakau needs as a minimum, a Community Board that is focused on the needs of a rapidly growing Tuakau.

Tuakau is likely to be requiring a City Council within the next 1-2 decades.

The population growth is forecaste to be exponential in the Tuakau township.

The TDDA supports the formulation of a Tuakau Community Board.

The TDDA also supports the retention of a new "Over the River Community Board".

Without doubt we are about to outgrow the existing representation system.

There is a definite need to see an increased amount of funding for Tuakau & it's surrounding districts to cope with the spill over of Auckland's growth to provide essential Infrastructure.

This funding be it WDC or Central Government funded is absolutely required ?

Gary McGuire
Chairman TDDA.

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1August2018

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RE: Submission on 2018 Representation Review Initial Proposal

I do NOT support the proposal for the following reasons

I do not believe that the Council adequately consulted with the community as purported, but rather merely those with a vested interest in the process, being the existing Councillors, Boards and Committees. For example the Tuakau and Districts Development Assn, a major sponsor and driver of our Tuakau community's Community Plan, was never approached for input.

Only 5 of the 10 Wards have Community Boards, who are elected members of our communities, informing 13 Councillors. While there are a further 6 Community Committees, they have no legal status under the law, and are unpaid volunteers. 3 Wards have no apparent community representation at all supporting their Councillor. One Councillor has 4 Community Committees to attend, and no Community Boards.

The best represented Ward is Ngaruawahia with an average of 5175 people being represented and only 1 Community Board and 2 Councillors (10,320 people in total), compared to Whangamarino with 6232 people being represented by 1 Councillor and 4 Community Committees, and no Community Board. The next most poorly represented area is Awaroa ki Tuakau with an average of 6205 people being represented. That Ward has two Councillors representing 12,410 people and 1 Community Board and 1 Community Committee under the proposed distribution.

Nowhere in the Document are we shown the growth in population between the last Review and the current Review, nor told what the growth in people being represented by each Councillor has been over time. It appears to me that our representation is being watered down. It also appears that the fastest growing areas are the least well represented. I believe we need 1-2 more Councillors to bring the representation back to approx. 5000

If we value our Representation process, then we should acknowledge our Community Committees by establishing more Community Boards, at least one in each Ward would be appropriate. Those Community Boards should then invite the Chair of each Community Committee, as an ex-officio member of the Board beyond its officially voted representation, to join the Board meetings so that they can provide input to the Board and give feedback to their Committee. The Community of

interest will determine whether it has a need for a Community Committee. This would provide for appropriate community engagement within each Ward.

I am not sure whether I agree with the splitting up of the Onewhero-Tuakau Community Board, into the Tuakau Community Board, but I believe that if Onewhero establishes a Community Committee, then it is appropriate for other small communities within the Ward to do so too, and that the members of that Ward should be entitled to a Onewhero-Te Akau Community Board as well. The question then remains, what of the rest of the Awaroa ki Tuakau Ward, how will its voice be heard beyond the town limits of Tuakau if the aim of the Onewhero-Tuakau split is to give Tuakau town a stronger voice?

In terms of representation and self-help I also believe that it is appropriate and timely for the Council to consider Business Improvement Districts (BIDs) for each town within the District, funded from a targeted rate on the businesses in that town's district. This would assist greatly in assisting economic development within each Town. I refer you to <https://bid.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/> for more information on how this works in the Auckland District.

Each Town would then have a funded Business Association that would be proactive in developing and implementing initiatives to promote and grow that Town, in partnership with Council. If this were to happen, then the role of the Community Board would retain a wider focus, while the Business Assn concentrates on improving the town centres.

I hope this submission gives another perspective to the discussion. I would like to speak to my submission.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dee Bond', written in a cursive style.

Dee Bond