



**Local Government Commission**  
*Mana Kāwanatanga ā Rohe*

**Volume 1**

**Auckland Governance Arrangements:  
Proposals for Wards, Local Boards and  
Boundaries for Auckland**

**20 November 2009**

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## MAPS

(Maps of proposed Auckland ward, local board and external boundaries are provided separately in Volume 2)

## Introduction

The Local Government (Tamaki Makaurau Reorganisation) Act 2009 establishes the Auckland Council as the single local authority for the Auckland region. The Act states the new council is being established to meet the challenges that Auckland faces as a result of “global economic, environmental and political forces” and “local trends including high population growth”. The Act states “to meet these challenges and opportunities, Auckland requires local and regional governance of the highest standard.”

The Royal Commission on Auckland Governance set out in section 1 of Part Two of its report the characteristics which it considered would define a “successful Auckland”. In doing so, it noted two broad themes coming through its submission and consultation processes: “the need for a strong regional identity, coupled with the importance of maintaining community input”.<sup>1</sup>

A second Act of Parliament, the Local Government (Auckland Council) Act 2009, requires the Local Government Commission to determine the arrangements for electing councillors to the Auckland Council. It is also required to determine arrangements for local boards that will share decision-making with the Auckland Council.

In summary, the Commission is required to decide:

- the number of wards for electing 20 councillors to the Auckland Council and the exact boundaries and names for those wards
- the number of local boards (between 20 and 30 unless on specific grounds the Commission determines otherwise) that will share decision-making with the Auckland Council, the need for subdivisions of these areas for electoral purposes, and the exact boundaries, names and number of members for each of those boards and subdivisions
- the exact location of the northern and southern boundaries for the area of the Auckland Council as a whole
- arrangements for the area of the Franklin District that will not be within the Auckland region.

This document sets out the Commission’s proposals in response to the requirements of the two Acts of Parliament and also the views of the Royal Commission on Auckland Governance relating to a “successful Auckland”.

In aiming to meet the purposes of the legislation, the Commission believes it is important to take a fresh approach to local governance arrangements in Auckland and not replicate existing arrangements. This will assist the new Auckland Council to meet its regional decision-making responsibilities and the local boards to engage with local communities and undertake effective local decision-making.

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<sup>1</sup> See ‘Report of the Royal Commission on Auckland Governance, Volume 1 March 2009’, pp 49-58

To assist it to prepare these proposals, the Commission undertook an initial information gathering phase in which it talked with the councils and community boards in the region and with a number of other regional interest groups, and invited initial written views. The Commission acknowledges the input from the organisations, groups and individuals it met and from those that submitted views in the information gathering phase, as listed in *Appendix 1*.

Further input into the Commission's work was provided by the 'Report of the Royal Commission on Auckland Governance' dated March 2009 and the submissions to and report of the parliamentary select committee (the Auckland Governance Legislation Committee) on the Local Government (Auckland Council) Bill.

The Commission is now seeking community feedback on its proposals. It is inviting suggestions that will improve the proposed arrangements including how any suggested improvements can be accommodated within the legislative requirements.

## **Objectives**

In completing its tasks, the Commission set itself the following objectives:

1. a new Auckland governance structure that is coherent, understandable, enduring and legally compliant
2. the structure will promote good governance and support effective engagement between people, communities, local boards and the Auckland Council
3. the structure will provide effective representation for Auckland's diverse communities
4. arrangements for the area of Franklin District outside the Auckland region that will promote good local government for that area.

## **Criteria**

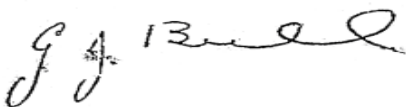
To assess proposals against these objectives, the Commission established specific criteria relating to wards, local boards and the location of the northern and southern boundaries of Auckland. These criteria relate to:

- compliance with the requirements of the Local Government (Auckland Council) Act 2009
- recognition of communities of interest in Auckland
- effective representation of those communities of interest
- effective governance of Auckland.

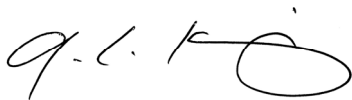
The criteria are set out in detail in a document called *Criteria for assessing proposals* on the Commission's website [www.lgc.govt.nz](http://www.lgc.govt.nz). Key criteria are summarised in *Appendix 2*.



Sue Piper  
Chair



Gwen Bull  
Commissioner



Grant Kirby  
Commissioner

### Submissions

Submissions must be received by the Local Government Commission by 5pm on Friday, 11 December 2009.

Submissions may be:

Mailed to:

The Chief Executive Officer  
Local Government Commission  
PO Box 5362  
WELLINGTON

Emailed to:

[info@lgc.govt.nz](mailto:info@lgc.govt.nz)

Faxed to:

(04) 494 0501

## PART ONE: AUCKLAND WARDS AND LOCAL BOARDS

We are required to establish wards and local boards for Auckland that, as far as practicable, will provide effective representation for communities of interest. Our criteria identify three dimensions of community of interest and we have used these, with the assistance of the input we received, to identify Auckland communities of interest. We then assessed how these communities of interest could be best grouped to provide them with effective representation.

We assessed this in terms of the size and nature of communities and the numbers of members required for effective representation. In the case of local boards, we assessed this with additional criteria relating to the capacity of the area to generate resources for local decision-making, the ability of boards to engage effectively with the Auckland Council, and the need to have an appropriate area to perform local board functions, duties and powers.

Our objective in respect of both ward and local board arrangements was for these to be coherent, understandable and as enduring as possible. We remained focussed throughout on achieving the best possible outcomes for all of Auckland as intended by the legislation and identified by the Royal Commission.

### Auckland wards

#### *General*

We are required to ensure that wards for the election of 20 councillors to the Auckland Council provide, so far as is practicable, effective representation of communities of interest in Auckland. Wards are also required to provide, so far as is practicable, fair representation for electors. Fair representation is defined in the Act in terms of the ratio of population to councillor for each ward being within +/-10% of the average for the district as a whole (often referred to as the '+/-10% fair representation rule').<sup>2</sup>

In determining ward arrangements we are required to include two single-member wards as follows:

- one based on the rural area of Rodney District and
- one based on the area of Franklin District remaining within the boundaries of Auckland.

We understood the requirement to establish single-member wards based on the rural area of Rodney and the Franklin area remaining in Auckland as meaning these wards could be exceptions to the '+/-10% fair representation rule'. However we believe the principle of fair representation should still apply to the maximum extent possible over the whole region. Put another way, the

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<sup>2</sup> We used 2008 population estimates for the purpose of calculating ratios of population per councillor.

more over-representation in these two single-member wards the more under-representation there would have to be in the rest of Auckland.

After determining the boundaries for the single-member rural Rodney and Franklin Wards, we distributed the remaining 18 councillors left from the fixed total of 20 councillors set under the Act. We did this in the fairest manner we could devise given the requirements of the Act for effective representation of communities of interest and fair representation for electors. In cases where the level of ward representation is less than what may be seen as ideal, we believe local board arrangements will assist community representation.

Apart from the arrangements for the two single-member wards for rural Rodney and Franklin, we have proposed two-member wards in most cases. We have found that in Auckland, two-member wards provide greater opportunities than single-member wards to combine like communities of interest and in other cases to avoid splitting communities of interest. Two-member wards also provide potential for more diverse representation of communities at the council table and will provide a choice for residents on who to approach with local concerns following the election.

We also note that larger ward areas would not require the degree of boundary changes over time, as smaller wards would, in order to comply with the '+/- 10% fair representation rule'. We see this as an important consideration in our objective to establish an enduring representation structure.

On the other hand, wards larger than two members would mean that councillors could be seen as that much more remote from local communities. Large wards are also seen by many as likely to discourage independent candidates from standing at elections given the resources required to campaign in such wards. On balance we believe two-member wards are generally an appropriate size for wards. We also noted a level of support for two-member wards in the initial views we received.

However we did not start with a 'one size fits all' approach to determining wards, and in two cases (in addition to Rodney and Franklin) we are proposing to establish single-member wards. We believe there are good reasons for establishing single-member wards in the cases concerned. With these two exceptions, we are proposing a consistent approach for the urban wards of Auckland. This will assist the achievement of our objective of a coherent approach to help understanding by the residents of Auckland.<sup>3</sup>

Finally in relation to names of wards, generally we have used existing names to assist identification of the areas concerned. We believe a degree of familiarity is important for encouraging residents to engage with the new local governance structure such as participating in election or decision-making processes. In some cases we are proposing new names which relate to prominent geographical features of the area concerned.

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<sup>3</sup> The Commission acknowledges that a few of its proposed boundaries do not follow existing meshblocks. It is seeking views on these boundaries before requesting that the meshblocks be split.

### *The northern sector*

We are required to establish a single-member ward based on the rural area of Rodney District.

We were advised by the Rodney District Council that over 92% of the Rodney District has some type of rural zoning. The Council also commented that the community outcomes processes, undertaken by the Council under the Local Government Act 2002, and resulting frameworks showed 'ruralness' to be "not only a matter of land use; it is also a matter of perception. Many people consider they are living in a rural environment as long as ridge lines are not built out and they are not in a substantially built-up area." We agree that perception is an important element in defining 'rural'.

The Rodney District Council submitted that what it described as the "potentially urban area" around Kumeu and Huapai could be excluded from the rural ward and included in a ward to the south. While this may be an area designated for future growth, we see these towns continuing to provide important servicing functions for the adjacent rural areas. We believe therefore that this area should be part of the proposed rural ward.

In terms of overall fairness of representation, it is desirable to include as many people as possible in the rural Rodney Ward. On this basis we have defined a Rodney Ward, electing one councillor as required by the Act, comprising all of the Rodney District with the exception of the Hibiscus Coast and a small area on the West Coast (so that all of the Waitakere Ranges heritage area is in one ward). We note that the proposed Rodney Ward has a population per councillor less than other wards (i.e. over-representation).

We are aware that the size of the proposed rural ward is near the limits for one councillor to provide effective representation given the distance to be travelled for the carrying out of representation responsibilities. However we believe the important role local boards will play in representing local community interests, addressed later in this report, will lessen these concerns.

The remaining part of Rodney District, the Hibiscus Coast, has a population of 41,800 which is insufficient to form a standalone ward of the Auckland Council. We propose that this area be combined with the northern area of North Shore City.

The Hibiscus Coast area, including Waiwera, Hatfields Beach, Orewa, Silverdale and the Whangaparaoa Peninsula is clearly urban in nature and includes the majority of the commercially zoned area of the Rodney District. It has a coastal orientation in common with the East Coast Bays area of North Shore and its links to the south include the over 40% of Rodney residents who work in the Auckland metropolis.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>4</sup> 2006 Census data

An alternative of splitting some of the East Coast Bays and/or Albany communities to combine with Hibiscus Coast to form a single-member ward would split clearly recognised communities of interest within and between East Coast Bays and Albany. On the other hand a two-member ward for the combined area provides a small degree of over-representation which we believe can be justified given the forecast population growth in the Albany and Long Bay areas.

For the reasons already noted in support of establishing two-member wards, we believe it would be appropriate to establish two-member wards for both the northern area of North Shore/Hibiscus Coast and for the rest of the North Shore.

*In summary, for the northern sector of Auckland we propose:*

- 1. a Rodney Ward, electing one councillor, covering most of the present Rodney District but excluding the Hibiscus Coast and an area south of Muriwai Beach which will be included in the Waitakere Ward (in order to keep the Waitakere Ranges heritage area in one ward) [see map W1]*
- 2. a Hibiscus-Albany-East Coast Bays Ward electing two councillors [see map W2]*
- 3. a North Shore Ward, electing two councillors, covering Glenfield, Birkenhead, Takapuna and Devonport [see map W2].*

*The southern sector*

We are required to establish a single-member ward based on the area of Franklin remaining in Auckland.

We believe the area of Franklin District remaining in Auckland plus the Clevedon community and the majority of the rural area of Papakura District would comprise an appropriate ward.

These areas share, as was submitted to us by the Clevedon Community Board, similar land use and settlement patterns, be they coastal settlements, rural villages, lifestyle blocks or production farms, and they share similar values. As such, our approach to establishing this ward reflects our approach adopted for the Rodney Ward.

The Clevedon community can be distinguished from the remainder of the present Botany-Clevedon Ward of Manukau City based on these land use and settlement patterns and common values. The Botany-Flat Bush area on the other hand is within the metropolitan urban limit with Flat Bush designated as a future growth area.

We were very mindful of the history of Papakura as a separate local authority. However the total population of the District of 48,000 means it does not meet the fair representation requirement for it to be a standalone ward. There is also a clearly urban component of the present District, being within the

metropolitan urban limit, which distinguishes it from the rural/lifestyle areas described above in relation to the proposed Franklin Ward.

We note the Papakura District Council advised that there are links between Papakura and the Randwick Park and Hyperion census area units of Manurewa. These links include shopping, schools, health services and sporting facilities. We also note that 55% of Papakura residents work in the Auckland metropolis with 4% working in Franklin District.<sup>5</sup>

While the Council believed Manurewa has strong links to metropolitan Manukau and has a different culture and identity to that of Papakura, we believe the different cultures and identities can be maintained in multi-member wards and with the assistance of separate local boards (addressed below).

We therefore propose a Papakura-Manurewa Ward electing two councillors.

We propose two further wards for the southern sector of Auckland for Howick-Pakuranga-Botany and Mangere-Papatoetoe-Otara each electing two councillors. We believe these two wards reflect commonalities of communities of interest in the respective areas.

The Howick-Pakuranga-Botany Ward falls just outside the ‘+/-10% fair representation rule’. To make this ward comply would, we believe, compromise effective representation of communities of interest in the proposed ward. We believe the present level of over-representation is justified on the basis that Botany-Flat Bush is a designated growth area and population growth will result in compliance with the requirement in the near future.

*In summary, for the southern sector of Auckland we propose:*

- 1. a Franklin Ward, electing one councillor, comprising all the area of Franklin District remaining in Auckland together with the Clevedon community and the majority of the rural area of Papakura District [see map W6]*
- 2. a Papakura-Manurewa Ward electing two councillors [see map W5]*
- 3. a Howick-Pakuranga-Botany Ward electing two councillors [see map W5]*
- 4. a Manukau Ward, electing two councillors, covering Mangere, Papatoetoe and Otara [see map W5].*

*Auckland isthmus/West Auckland*

The Waitakere City Council submitted that the rural, coastal and township areas of Riverhead, Kumeu-Huapai and Muriwai currently within the Western Ward of Rodney District, should be included within an extended Waitakere ward. This was on the basis that these areas are facing pressures for urban development despite being outside the metropolitan urban limit. The Council

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<sup>5</sup> 2006 Census data

commented that these pressures are the same as those it has experienced in the Waitakere Ranges and foothills for many decades. It also noted what it saw as community of interest linkages of this area to Westgate and Waitakere more generally.

We acknowledge the arguments regarding development in this area and, as this occurs, increasing linkages with Westgate and areas to the south. However, as noted above, we believe fairness of representation across Auckland requires reasonably equal representation including for the single-member rural wards. Within the bounds of the 20-councillor limit, this requires a balance of population between the northern and southern sectors and the Auckland isthmus/West Auckland area. On this basis, the area concerned needs to remain within the northern sector.

We also believe the Kumeu-Huapai area continues to provide important service functions for the adjacent rural area. We do agree, however, that a small extension of Waitakere to the north is appropriate to provide for the area of the Waitakere Ranges heritage area currently within Rodney District, to be united with the bulk of the heritage area now within Waitakere City.

The Waitakere City Council pointed out the connections between New Lynn and an adjoining area of Auckland City based on the area of the present Avondale Community Board. It noted these connections include the Waitakere residents who work in the Avondale-Rosebank area and the fact that both Avondale College and Blockhouse Bay Intermediate draw a significant number of their students from areas within Waitakere City. The Council stated that New Lynn town centre is the predominant service centre in this wider area with a recent Council survey showing nearly 33% of shoppers in New Lynn live in the Avondale-Blockhouse Bay area.

Recognition of communities of interest is a key criterion in our determinations on ward boundaries. On the basis of the linkages between the New Lynn and Avondale areas, we considered a number of options for ward arrangements. These included a three-member ward for an extended Waitakere City or a three-member ward for the New Lynn area extending eastward to include Mt Albert and Mt Roskill. Given the present connections of New Lynn and Avondale respectively, we believe a single-member ward for this area would be appropriate. The proposed ward would comprise the suburbs of New Lynn, Green Bay and Kelston combined with Rosebank, Waterview, Avondale and Blockhouse Bay. We propose the ward be called Whau after the estuarian arm of the Waitemata Harbour extending into the area.

We propose a Waitakere Ward, electing two councillors, for the present Massey, Henderson and Waitakere Wards of Waitakere City together with Titirangi and Glen Eden. We acknowledge that at +17%, this ward would be more under-represented than is ideal. However we see this as necessary in order to retain all the Waitakere Ranges heritage area together (including a small extension northward), as many groups and individuals suggested, as well as to maintain the connections between the heritage area and the urban areas bordering it on the east.

As noted in respect of other areas in the region, we believe that the establishment of a local board with sufficient capacity to effectively represent and make decisions in the interests of the area, will help to mitigate the impact of under-representation through wards.

After careful consideration of a number of options for wards for the existing Auckland City area, we propose a single-member ward for the central/CBD area and two-member wards for the remaining eastern and western areas. We believe such an arrangement will best reflect isthmus communities of interest within the bounds of the legislative requirements.

We believe it is highly desirable to have a ward based on the central/CBD area to ensure that this area, as the commercial heart of the region, is effectively represented. We see such a ward including the Hauraki Gulf Islands given their functional community of interest linkages, such as transport and employment, with the CBD.

We considered options to establish this ward as a two-member ward but this would require it to include more residential areas. We recognise the special nature of this ward as reflected in the high numbers of people who travel into it on a daily basis for work, shopping and entertainment reasons as distinct from residential interests elsewhere in the isthmus. On this basis we believe a smaller ward electing one councillor would be appropriate.

In addition to the current CBD area and the Hauraki Gulf Islands, the proposed ward includes Parnell, Newmarket, Grafton, Newton, Grey Lynn, Westmere, Herne Bay, Ponsonby and Freemans Bay. We propose the ward be named Maungawhau-Hauraki Gulf given the prominence of Maungawhau/Mt Eden Domain within the area and the inclusion of the Hauraki Gulf Islands.

The proposed ward has a high level of under-representation compared to the average for the region. One of the reasons for this is the inclusion of the Hauraki Gulf Islands, with a population in excess of 9,000, within this ward. We note, by way of comparison, that providing the Hauraki Gulf Islands with one councillor on the present Auckland City Council currently results in over-representation for the ward of 57.7%. This highlights the difficulty in some areas of achieving a ratio of population to councillor within +/-10%. This particular imbalance adds to the difficulty in the proposed ward and the degree in this case of under-representation (+24.3%). We note the ward will have three local boards.

Following identification of the area for the proposed Maungawhau-Hauraki Gulf Ward, we then identified two two-member wards for the western and eastern areas as follows:

- Mt Albert-Mt Roskill Ward: including Mt Albert, Pt Chevalier, Western Springs, St Lukes, Morningside, Sandringham, Balmoral, Epsom, Greenwood's Corner, Wesley, Mt Roskill, Three Kings, Royal Oak, Hillsborough, Waikowhai, Lynfield

- Orakei-Maungakiekie Ward: including Orakei, Mission Bay, St Heliers, Kohimarama, Glendowie, Remuera, Meadowbank, St Johns, Ellerslie, Glen Innes, Tamaki, Panmure, Mt Wellington, Sylvia Park, Westfield, Otahuhu, Penrose, Onehunga, Oranga, Maungakiekie (One Tree Hill).

We did consider the option of including Otahuhu in the proposed Manukau Ward which would have reduced the degree of under-representation in this area. However, on community of interest grounds, we considered that Otahuhu is best included in an isthmus-based ward.

*In summary, for the Auckland isthmus/West Auckland we propose:*

- 1. a Waitakere Ward, electing two councillors, covering all of the existing Waitakere City excluding New Lynn, Green Bay and Kelston plus a small area of Rodney District [see map W3]*
- 2. a Whau Ward (New Lynn-Avondale), electing one councillor, covering New Lynn, Green Bay, Kelston, Avondale, Rosebank, Waterview, Blockhouse Bay [see map W4]*
- 3. a Mt Albert-Mt Roskill Ward, electing two councillors [see map W4]*
- 4. a Maungawhau-Hauraki Gulf Ward (Auckland Central), electing one councillor, covering the central/CBD area and the Hauraki Gulf islands [see map W4]*
- 5. an Orakei-Maungakiekie Ward, electing two councillors [see map W4].*

#### *Summary of proposed Auckland wards*

A summary of the proposed wards, population and ratio of population per councillor for each Auckland ward is as follows:

<b>Wards</b>	<b>Population</b>	<b>No. of councillors per ward</b>	<b>Population per councillor</b>	<b>Deviation from average population per councillor</b>	<b>% deviation from average population per councillor*</b>
Rodney	53,590	1	53,590	-17,219.5	-24.3
Hibiscus-Albany-East Coast Bays	120,400	2	60,200	-10,609.5	-15.0
North Shore	144,600	2	72,300	+1,490.5	+2.1
Waitakere	166,150	2	83,075	+12,265.5	+17.3
Whau (New Lynn-Avondale)	80,900	1	80,900	+10,090.5	+14.3
Mt Albert-Mt Roskill	144,000	2	72,000	+1,190.5	+1.7
Maungawhau-Hauraki Gulf (Auckland Central)	88,000	1	88,000	+17,190.5	+24.3
Orakei-Maungakiekie	161,400	2	80,700	+9,890.5	+14.0
Manukau	142,400	2	71,200	+390.5	+0.6
Papakura-Manurewa	129,400	2	64,700	-6,109.5	-8.6
Howick-Pakuranga-Botany	121,700	2	60,850	-9,959.5	-14.1
Franklin	63,650	1	63,650	-7,159.5	-10.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,416,190</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>70,809.5</b>		

\* '+' denotes under-representation and '-' denotes over-representation

We believe these twelve proposed wards provide the best balance of effective representation of communities of interest and fair representation for electors within the constraints of the legislation. We are seeking views on these ward proposals and any suggested improvements within the legislative constraints.

## **Auckland local boards**

### *General*

We are required to establish local boards to share decision-making responsibilities with the Auckland Council. The Local Government (Auckland Council) Act specifies that there be between 20 and 30 local boards unless the Commission considers the number should be outside this range on the grounds of effective representation of communities of interest.

In determining local board arrangements we are required, among other things, to:

- establish a local board for the Waiheke Island community
- establish a local board for the Great Barrier Island community
- consider the need for subdivisions of local board areas for electoral purposes and, if required, to ensure fair representation for electors as far as is practicable
- ensure, so far as is practicable, the boundaries of local board areas, and any subdivision of those areas, provide effective representation of communities of interest
- ensure, so far as is practicable, the boundaries of wards and local board areas coincide.

In addition to the above criteria, we noted a number of other provisions in the Local Government (Auckland Council) Act relevant to the establishment of local boards. These provisions include the decision-making responsibilities of the Auckland Council which are to be shared between the Council itself and the local boards. Principles for the allocation of decision-making responsibilities under the Act include that decision-making for non-regulatory activities should be exercised by local boards unless, for particular prescribed reasons, decisions should be made by the Auckland Council.

To us, this suggests that boards will need to be of a sufficient size to ensure they can attract capable people to stand for the board and they have the ability to generate sufficient resources to undertake effective local-decision-making. For example, a local board may wish to request the Auckland Council to levy a targeted rate in its area to fund a particular local service or amenity. To ensure this is effective, the local board area will need to be an appropriate size, have boundaries that relate to local service delivery, and contain sufficient capacity to support decision-making on such local services.

We also noted other provisions in the Act which we believe should be taken into account when establishing local boards. In particular, will the total number of boards impact on the ability of the Auckland Council to meet its responsibilities? These provisions include the powers of the mayor, which include establishing processes and mechanisms for community engagement. There is also a requirement for the Auckland Council to have an agreement between it and each of the local boards and for these agreements to be included in the Council's long-term council community plan. Clearly a particularly large number of boards will affect the Council's ability to carry out these tasks efficiently and effectively.

We have set out in our criteria all the factors which we believe should be taken into account when determining the detailed arrangements for local boards. In addition to the statutory requirements, we believe the following factors will contribute to effective local governance in Auckland and assist all the parties to meet their statutory responsibilities:

- the capacity of local board areas to generate resources for local decision-making
- the ability of boards to engage effectively with the Auckland Council
- an appropriate area for the boards to perform their functions, duties and powers.

We applied these criteria in our consideration of local boards and did not begin with a total number of boards in mind.

#### *Northern sector*

We propose one local board be established coinciding with the Rodney Ward. Given the size and geography of the area, we believe there should be three subdivisions for this local board area based on Wellsford-Warkworth, Dairy Flat and Helensville electing three, one and three members respectively. *[see map LB1]*

We propose one local board be established coinciding with the Hibiscus-Albany-East Coast Bays Ward. Given the distinct nature of communities of interest within this area, we believe there should be three subdivisions for the local board area based on Hibiscus Coast, Albany and East Coast Bays each electing three members. *[see map LB2a]*

We propose two local boards be established within the boundaries of the North Shore Ward based on Glenfield-Birkenhead and Takapuna-Devonport. Each local board area reflects a distinct community of interest while also containing distinct communities of interest within the area. We therefore propose that the Glenfield-Birkenhead Local Board be divided into Glenfield and Birkenhead subdivisions both electing three members and that the Takapuna-Devonport Local Board be divided into Takapuna and Devonport subdivisions electing three and two members respectively. *[see maps LB2b and LB2c]*

### *Southern sector*

We propose one local board be established coinciding with the Franklin Ward. Given the size and geography of the area, we believe there should be three subdivisions for this local board area based on Clevedon, Pukekohe and Waiuku electing three, four and two members respectively. *[see map LB6]*

We propose two local boards be established within the boundaries of the Papakura-Manurewa Ward based on Papakura and Manurewa. Each board area reflects a distinct community of interest. We propose that the Papakura Local Board comprise five elected members and the Manurewa Local Board comprise seven elected members. *[see maps LB5d and LB5e]*

We propose one local board be established coinciding with the Howick-Pakuranga-Botany Ward. Given the distinct nature of communities of interest within this area, we believe there should be three subdivisions for the local board area based on Howick, Pakuranga and Botany-Flat Bush each electing three members. *[see map LB5c]*

We propose two local boards be established within the boundaries of the Manukau Ward based on Mangere and Otara-Papatoetoe. The proposed Mangere Local Board area reflects a distinct community of interest. We propose this board comprise five elected members. In the case of the proposed Otara-Papatoetoe Local Board, there are two distinct communities of interest. In line with our criteria relating to the necessary capacity for local boards to operate effectively in line with the purposes of the legislation, we believe these communities should be combined into one board area. We believe the local board should comprise two subdivisions with the Otara subdivision electing three members and the Papatoetoe subdivision electing four members. *[see maps LB5a and LB5b]*

### *Auckland isthmus/West Auckland*

We propose one local board be established coinciding with the boundaries of the Waitakere Ward. Given the distinct nature of communities of interest in this area, we believe there should be four subdivisions for the local board area based on Massey, Henderson, Glen Eden-Titirangi and the Waitakere Ranges area electing two, four, two and one member respectively. *[see map LB3]*

We propose one local board be established coinciding with the boundaries of the Whau Ward (New Lynn-Avondale). Given the distinct nature of communities of interest in this area, we believe there should be two subdivisions for the local board area based on New Lynn and Avondale electing three and four members respectively. *[see map LB4a]*

We propose three local boards be established within the boundaries of the Maungawhau-Hauraki Gulf Ward (Auckland Central) based on the mainland Maungawhau area and Waiheke and Great Barrier Islands. Each local board reflects a distinct community of interest. We propose each local board comprise five members. *[see maps LB4d, LB4e and LB4f]*

We propose two local boards be established within the boundaries of the Mt Albert-Mt Roskill Ward. Each local board area reflects a distinct community of interest while also containing distinct communities of interest within the area. We therefore propose that the Mt Albert Local Board be divided into a Pt Chevalier-Morningside subdivision electing four members and an Epsom-Balmoral subdivision electing three members. We propose that the Mt Roskill Local Board be divided into a Waikowhai subdivision and a Three Kings subdivision each electing three members. *[see maps LB4b and LB4c]*

We propose two local boards be established within the boundaries of the Orakei-Maungakiekie Ward. Each local board area reflects a distinct community of interest while also containing distinct communities of interest within the area. We therefore propose that the Orakei Local Board be divided into a Remuera subdivision electing four members and a Kohimarama subdivision electing three members. We propose that the Maungakiekie-Tamaki Local Board be divided into a Maungakiekie subdivision and a Tamaki subdivision electing two and four members respectively. *[see maps LB4g and LB4h]*

#### *Summary of proposed Auckland local boards*

A summary of the proposed local boards, subdivisions where appropriate, and membership of the boards is as follows:

Ward	Local Boards	Pop.	Subdivisions	Pop.	Number of members (% deviation*)
Rodney	Rodney	53,590	Wellsford-Warkworth Central Helensville-Kumeu	21,600 7,990 24,000	3 (-6.0%) 1 (+4.4%) 3 (+4.5%)
Hibiscus-Albany- East Coast Bays	Hibiscus-Albany- East Coast Bays	120,400	Hibiscus Albany East Coast Bays	41,800 36,100 42,500	3 (+4.2%) 3 (-10.0%) 3 (+5.9%)
North Shore	Glenfield-Birkenhead	85,000	Glenfield Birkenhead	40,800 44,200	3 (-4.0%) 3 (+4.0%)
	Takapuna-Devonport	59,600	Takapuna Devonport	35,800 23,800	3 (+0.1%) 2 (-0.2%)
Waitakere	Waitakere	166,150	Massey Henderson Glen Eden-Titirangi Waitakere Ranges	39,800 81,100 33,400 11,850	2 (+7.8%) 4 (+9.8%) 2 (-9.5%) 1(-35.8%)
Whau	Whau	80,900	New Lynn Avondale	36,300 44,600	3 (+4.7%) 4 (-3.5%)
Mt Albert-Mt Roskill	Mt Albert	84,600	Pt Chevalier-Morningside Epsom-Balmoral	47,700 36,900	4 (-1.3%) 3 (+1.8%)
	Mt Roskill	59,400	Waikowhai Three Kings	30,500 28,900	3 (+2.7%) 3 (-2.7%)
Maungawhau-Hauraki Gulf (Auckland Central)	Maungawhau	78,860	Not applicable		5
	Waiheke	8,300	Not applicable		5
	Great Barrier	840	Not applicable		5

Orakei-Maungakiekie	Orakei	87,200	Remuera Kohimarama	52,900 34,300	4 (+6.2%) 3 (-8.2%)
	Maungakiekie-Tamaki	74,200	Maungakiekie Tamaki	24,000 50,200	2 (-3.0%) 4 (+1.5%)
Manukau	Mangere	60,600	Not applicable		5
	Otara-Papatoetoe	81,800	Otara Papatoetoe	37,200 44,600	3 (+6.1%) 4 (-4.6%)
Howick-Pakuranga-Botany	Howick-Pakuranga-Botany	121,700	Howick Pakuranga Botany-Flat Bush	42,100 41,200 38,400	3 (+3.8%) 3 (+1.6%) 3 (-5.3%)
	Papakura-Manurewa	44,000	Not applicable		5
Franklin	Manurewa	85,400	Not applicable		7
	Franklin	63,650	Clevedon Pukekohe Waiuku	20,500 29,800 13,350	3 (-3.4%) 4 (+5.3%) 2 (-5.6%)

\* '+' denotes under-representation and '-' denotes over-representation

Apart from the statutorily prescribed local boards (for Waiheke and Great Barrier Islands) all the other proposed local boards, with one exception, will represent areas in excess of 53,000 people. We believe this is an appropriate threshold to ensure that the local boards will have sufficient capacity to generate resources for effective local decision-making and have areas appropriate for effectively performing their functions, duties and powers.

The one exception is the proposed Papakura Local Board to serve a population of 44,000. We believe the establishment of a separate local board for Papakura, as opposed to a combined board with Manurewa, is appropriate given the distinct nature of this community. We note that it would not serve a significantly smaller population than a number of the other local boards.

Two proposed local boards (Waitakere and Howick-Pakuranga-Botany) have populations significantly in excess of 53,000. The nature of these communities is such that division in two would split clearly identified communities of interest. Further division we believe would significantly weaken the capacity of the areas concerned to generate resources. In addition, in the case of Waitakere, we received many requests to retain this community as one entity which we have done to a large extent.

We acknowledge the requirement of the Act to provide for between 20 and 30 local boards unless we consider the number of boards should be outside this range on the grounds of effective representation of communities of interest. We believe our proposed local board arrangements, resulting in 19 local boards, are the most appropriate for meeting the requirement for effective representation of communities of interest.

Firstly these arrangements best recognise existing communities of interest in Auckland (as also reflected in our proposed ward arrangements). Secondly the arrangements provide these areas with sufficient capacity to generate resources for local decision-making and thereby will enable the local boards to effectively represent and act in the best interests of their respective

communities. We also believe the number of 19 will enable the local boards to engage effectively with the Auckland Council, particularly in respect of timely completion of the local board agreements required under the Act.

We propose that, in most cases, there be subdivisions of local board areas for electoral purposes. We believe these are necessary to reflect distinct communities of interest in these areas and to provide these communities with reasonably equal opportunities for representation. With one exception, the subdivisions comply with the '+/-10% fair representation rule'. The exception is the Waitakere Ranges subdivision of the Waitakere Local Board. We believe this exception is justified on the grounds of effective representation for this large special interest area with its limited roading access.

We are seeking views on these local board proposals and any suggested improvements within the constraints of the legislation and bearing in mind our aim to ensure the boards will have sufficient capacity to effectively represent their communities of interest and are able to engage effectively with the Auckland Council.

## **PART TWO: THE BOUNDARIES OF AUCKLAND**

In addition to establishing a system of wards and local boards for Auckland, we are required to determine where the external boundaries of Auckland are to be.

Section 33(2) of the Local Government (Auckland Council) Act 2009 provides that in making a determination about the southern boundary of Auckland, the Commission must ensure that that boundary follows, as closely as practicable, the southern boundary of the Auckland Region, except that –

- the Mangatawhiri and Mangatangi catchments must, as far as practicable, be included in Waikato Region and Waikato District and
- the part of Franklin District between the Mangatangi Stream catchment and the Firth of Thames must, as far as practicable, be included in Waikato Region and either Hauraki District or Waikato District.

In determining the southern boundary, the Schedule to the Act requires that the Commission must also –

- satisfy itself that the determination will maximise, in a cost effective manner, the current and future well-being of the local authorities and the communities concerned
- have regard to –
  - the area of impact of the responsibilities, duties, and powers of the local authorities
  - the area of benefit of services provided
  - any other matters it considers appropriate.

In determining the other boundaries of Auckland, the Commission must ensure, as far as is practicable, those boundaries follow the existing boundaries of the Auckland Region.

### **Southern boundary**

The southern boundary of the Auckland Region, for most of its length, follows the northern boundary of the Waikato River catchment. It passes through the town of Waiuku and follows the southern edge of Pukekohe. The wider communities of interest of the towns to the south lie within the Waikato Region.

The Royal Commission on Auckland Governance considered whether the existing southern boundary should become the boundary for Auckland. It concluded that “using this boundary and including the southern part of Franklin District in Waikato District would be unsatisfactory in terms of

communities of interest, and servicing the area north of the Waikato River would present practical difficulties”.<sup>6</sup> This was a conclusion that the Local Government Commission had also reached when determining this boundary and the boundaries of Franklin District in 1989.

In considering the southern boundary and considering the views put to us in our information gathering phase, we became acquainted with the problems identified by the Royal Commission. The Act does, however, use the existing regional boundary as the starting point and this is where we must begin our consideration.

We received a variety of views as to where the southern boundary should be located. We believe there are three options for the main part of the boundary-

- applying the existing southern boundary of the Auckland Region
- applying the existing southern boundary of the Auckland Region with adjustments
- defining the southern boundary at the Waikato River.

Another view expressed was that the entire area of Franklin District should be excluded from Auckland. We do not consider that this is an option the legislation allows us to consider as it gives both a general direction as where the southern boundary should be and also provides for the abolition of the Franklin District Council. We, therefore, did not consider this option any further.

None of the views put to us explicitly support retention of the existing southern boundary without modification. There were, however, some people living close to the boundary, but in the Waikato Region, who expressed a wish to remain in the Waikato Region and by implication supported the current boundary.

There was some support for a boundary based on the existing boundary with some modifications. The Franklin District Council sought inclusion in Auckland of –

- the residential, rural-residential and future growth areas of South Waiuku
- Buckland Village and surrounds and
- a small area to the east of Pukekohe, north of Mill Road.

This was to ensure that areas with an immediate community of interest with Waiuku and Pukekohe are located with those towns and to recognise the growth areas identified in the Franklin District Council’s district growth strategy.

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<sup>6</sup> ‘Report of the Royal Commission on Auckland Governance’ Volume 1 March 2009, p.402

This approach was supported conceptually, if not in precise detail, by Environment Waikato, Waikato-Tainui Te Kauhanganui and a number of individuals.

There was also support for the southern boundary to be defined at the Waikato River, generally on the basis of community of interest and the ability of residents to conveniently access local government services. This boundary would ensure that the Aka Aka and Otatau areas and the towns of Tuakau and Pokeno would be included in Auckland.

Clearly a significant issue is how the term “as closely as practicable” is to be applied. We have considered this in some detail.

We have concluded that identifying a boundary that runs “as closely as practicable” to the existing regional boundary means taking the existing boundary as the starting point and making alterations to ensure that the boundary achieves its purposes as set out in section 33 and the Schedule of the Act. If it is practicable for the southern boundary to conform with the existing regional boundary then it should follow that boundary. If it is not practicable, having regard to the requirements of the Act, then the boundary can be different but should still be “as close as practicable” to the regional boundary.

The broad scheme of the Act and its development suggest that our freedom to determine the southern boundary is within fairly narrow parameters.

The Royal Commission originally recommended that the southern boundary of Auckland run along the Waikato River. It seems clear from examining the development of the legislation that this option was explicitly rejected by both the Government, in considering the content of the Act, and Parliament in enacting it.

We believe the Government and Parliament preferred a boundary reflecting catchments. This is illustrated by the use of the existing boundary as the starting point and by the exclusion of the Mangatawhiri and Mangatangi catchments (which are sub-catchments of the larger Waikato River catchment) from Auckland.

The Schedule to the Act requires us to satisfy ourselves that the boundaries we determine will maximise, in a cost effective manner, the current and future well-being of the local authorities and the communities concerned. Interpreting this by itself could lead to a conclusion that a boundary located at, for example, the Waikato River as proposed by the Royal Commission and reflecting communities of interest, would be justified. We have concluded, however, that determining such a boundary is not permitted by the broader requirements of the Act.

We decided that –

- we could make adjustments to the boundary, such as ensuring that the whole of Waiuku is within Auckland, so as to ensure the practicability of the boundary, but
- we do not have the ability to move the boundary all the way to the Waikato River.

The arguments put to us about extending the southern boundary southwards relate to –

- ensuring that existing urban areas and adjacent areas designated for future growth are located within one local authority district
- ensuring wider communities of interest are located within one local authority district
- ensuring those wider communities of interest continue to have convenient access to local government services.

The wider community of interest of Waiuku appears to extend southwards to the Waikato River while that of Pukekohe extends at least to the river and possibly beyond. As noted above, we do not consider that the Act allows us to define a boundary that follows the Waikato River. We therefore propose that the southern boundary of Auckland ensure that the entire urban areas of Waiuku and Pukekohe and immediately adjacent future growth areas are located within Auckland.

This involves including in Auckland –

- the part of the Waiuku urban area currently in the Waikato Region and adjacent designated future growth areas
- those parts of Pukekohe currently in the Waikato Region
- the adjacent area of Buckland as proposed by the Franklin District Council
- the area to the east of Pukekohe, north of Mill Road.

This boundary will create challenges for the continuing delivery of local government services for the area between the proposed southern boundary of Auckland and the Waikato River. We therefore recommend that the Waikato District Council and the Auckland Council have an agreement that permits residents north of the river to access appropriate services through Auckland Council offices located in Pukekohe. For example, residents south of the boundary could have access to library services in Pukekohe or to counter services which could be provided on an agency basis. Discussions between the Waikato District Council, the Franklin District Council and the Auckland Transition Agency on such an arrangement should start immediately. If necessary we will include a service delivery arrangement in our determination.

The proposed boundary involves placing some areas of the Waikato River catchment in Auckland. To ensure the efficient future management of those

parts of the catchment and their linkages with areas downstream, we consider that Environment Waikato and the Auckland Council should enter into an agreement for their management. Again we consider that discussions should commence as soon as possible, and again if necessary we are prepared to include appropriate provisions relating to this matter in our determination.

Although we are proposing that the designated future growth areas adjacent to the existing boundary be located entirely within Auckland, we anticipate over time that growth around the southern boundary will intensify and that towns such as Pokeno will expand significantly. This will have the effect of both increasing the number of cross boundary issues to be dealt with and altering the boundaries of communities of interest and appropriate delivery areas for local government services. To ensure good local government for the boundary area in the future, we are of the view that the appropriateness of the boundary and the best means of delivering services will need to be reviewed in the short to medium term.

### **Mangatawhiri and Mangatangi catchments**

The Mangatawhiri and Mangatangi catchments form part of the Hunua Regional Park, owned by the Auckland Regional Council. They contain two water supply dams owned by Watercare Services Ltd. The Auckland Regional Council argued for retention of this area in Auckland on the basis of keeping the regional park land and dams in Auckland.

The advice we have received is that the dams are owned by Watercare Services which has a long-term licence to occupy and use the catchments. There does not appear to be any impediment to Watercare Services continuing its water supply activities should the catchments be included in the Waikato Region.

We note that the regional parks are used predominantly by Auckland residents. They also form part of a wider network of regional parkland in the Hunua Ranges which would logically continue to be managed as a single entity. We therefore propose that our determination provide for these parks to be vested in the Auckland Council.

Given these arrangements, we have not identified any impracticability in the new boundary following the boundary of the catchments. We therefore propose that the boundary be defined as following the catchment, subject to some minor adjustments, so that the boundary conforms to property boundaries.

## **Kaiaua**

We are required to determine whether the area between the Mangatangi Stream catchment and the Firth of Thames should be included in Hauraki District or Waikato District. This area is centred around the township of Kaiaua.

On the evidence we collected, we concluded that the predominant community of interest of this area lies with Hauraki District rather than Waikato District. A number of services for the area are located in Ngatea, for example medical services and secondary schooling. We were advised that some services are also provided from Thames which, although outside Hauraki District, represents an eastward rather than westward pull.

We also conducted a postal survey of residents in this area. Out of those who responded to the survey (320), 81% favoured Hauraki District and 19% favoured Waikato District.

In considering this part of the southern boundary we consulted both Waikato-Tainui Te Kauhanganui and the Hauraki Maori Trust Board. Both spoke of connections to the Kaiaua area. We concluded that while both may have connections with the area, it would be difficult to define a local government boundary that reflects both sets of connections.

On the basis of the above, we propose that, with one exception, the Kaiaua area be located in Hauraki District. We believe a small area to the immediate south of Matingarahi Point should remain in Auckland as geographically it forms part of the area to the immediate north.

## **Firth of Thames**

As a consequence of the transfer of the Kaiaua area to the Waikato Region, the regional boundary through the Firth of Thames needs to be redefined. One way of doing this would be by moving this boundary so that it follows a line extending from the new northern landward boundary of the Waikato Region outward to the middle of the Firth of Thames.

Environment Waikato, however, considered that this boundary should be defined so as to leave the land in a north-easterly direction so as to include a greater proportion of the Firth within the Waikato Region. This would include an area covered by a number of spat catching applications lodged with the Auckland Regional Council. This proposal would allow one regional council to manage marine farming in the majority of the Firth, particularly in the most shallow and sensitive part.

We believe this proposal has some merit. We will, however, consult further on the matter before finally determining this boundary.

## **Northern and coastal boundaries**

As well as determining the southern boundary, we are also required to determine the remaining boundaries of Auckland. These are the northern boundary between Auckland and the Northland Region, and the coastal boundaries in the Hauraki Gulf and the Tasman Sea.

A number of people expressed the view that the part of Rodney District centred on Wellsford, north of the Hoteo River and Dome Forest, should be included in Kaipara District and the Northland Region.

As with the southern boundary, we are required to follow the existing northern boundary “so far as is practicable”. We were not able to identify any reason that did not make the existing northern boundary practicable in the sense that it could not work in practice. We therefore propose that the existing northern boundary of the Auckland Region (and of Rodney District) be the northern boundary of Auckland.

There has been no suggestion that the eastern and western coastal boundaries should change and we propose that they remain as they are currently defined.

## **Transitional issues**

The transfer of part of Franklin District to Waikato Region and Hauraki and Waikato Districts requires the Commission to deal with a number of transitional matters.

The Local Government (Auckland Council) Act 2009 allows the Commission to apply the transitional provisions in the Local Government Act 2002 that would apply to a normal reorganisation scheme. We propose to do so in this case, apart from where specific arrangements are required.

The norm for reorganisation schemes (under clause 69 of Schedule 3 of the Local Government Act 2002) is for the apportionment of assets and liabilities and transfer of staff to be undertaken by the affected local authorities. As the affected local authorities, along with the Auckland Transition Agency, have the knowledge and expertise necessary to do this we propose that they do so for issues arising out of the determination of the southern boundary.

One exception to this approach is in respect of the Auckland Regional Council’s regional parks in the Hunua Ranges. As noted above, we propose our determination specifically provide for these parks to be vested in the Auckland Council.

More detail on transitional matters will be included in our determination.

One other issue that has been raised with us is the future ownership and management of the wastewater treatment plant situated near Tuakau. The

plant services Pukekohe, Buckland and Patumahoe (all to be in Auckland) and Tuakau (to be in Waikato).

Cabinet has recently agreed that the assets and liabilities of the current Auckland councils to be transferred to Watercare Services Ltd, include -

"the water and wastewater assets and liabilities of the Franklin District to the extent that the related assets will be mainly used to provide services within the boundaries of the Auckland Council (with the balance of the assets being transferred to Waikato District and Waikato Regional Councils respectively)".

As the Tuakau plant will mainly provide services within Auckland, under the above policy it would go to Watercare.

We understand that there will be a process spelt out in legislation for allocation of assets and liabilities to Watercare. Therefore, it is not necessary for us to make specific arrangements for the Tuakau wastewater treatment plant.

### **Representation issues**

The inclusion of parts of Franklin District in the Waikato Region and Hauraki and Waikato Districts will have implications for representation arrangements in those districts.

The proposed southern boundary involves including the Kaiaua area and the Mangatawhiri and Mangatangi catchments in the Waikato Region and the exclusion of part of Waiuku and the Bucklands and Mills Road areas. These all involve changes to the North Waikato-Hauraki Constituency of Waikato Region. The constituency would remain within the '+/-10% fair representation range' and no other changes are required.

The area to be included in Hauraki District would logically be included in the Plains Ward. The Plains Ward would also remain within the '+/-10% fair representation range' and no other changes to the District's representation arrangements are required.

The situation for Waikato District is quite different. The inclusion of approximately 13,000 additional residents will have a significant impact on the District's representation requirements. The Council has advised that it will develop a new representation arrangement for inclusion in the Commission's determination.

Community board arrangements for the area will also have to be considered by the Council. Franklin District has two community boards - Waiuku-Awhitu, of which part will be transferred to Waikato District, and Onewhero-Tuakau, all of which will be included in Waikato District.

## **Service delivery by other organisations**

A number of people expressed concern that basing the new southern boundary on the existing regional boundary would mean changes to where residents of the southern part of Franklin District would access various government services from in the future. As service delivery areas for many government services are based on local government boundaries, there was a view that these areas would automatically change with the new local government boundaries. Particular concern was expressed about the impact on district health board (DHB) boundaries.

DHB boundaries are defined according to local government boundaries. However they are defined in the New Zealand Public Health and Disability Act 2000 Schedule by reference to local government boundaries existing as at 1 June 2001. Therefore, although local government boundaries might change over time, DHB boundaries will remain fixed according to the 2001 local government boundaries unless separate and specific action is taken to change them. DHB boundaries could only be changed by an Order in Council made under section 19(2) of the New Zealand Public Health and Disability Act 2000.

Service delivery boundaries for other government services are normally at the discretion of the individual agencies concerned. We hope that any future consideration of these boundaries and of DHB boundaries will take into account the fact that for most of its length the new southern boundary of Auckland will follow a physical catchment boundary rather than a boundary based on communities of interest. As the services people are concerned about are people-related, we believe the boundaries for delivering those services should be community based.

## **Summary of Auckland boundary proposals**

*In summary, for the boundaries of Auckland we propose that:*

- 1. the southern boundary of Auckland, in the western part of Franklin District, follow the existing southern boundary of the Auckland Region, except that the following areas also be included in Auckland -**
  - **part of the South Waiuku urban area and adjacent designated future growth areas**
  - **those parts of Pukekohe currently in the Waikato Region**
  - **the adjacent area of Buckland as proposed by the Franklin District Council**
  - **the area to the east of Pukekohe, north of Mill Road**
- 2. the Mangatawhiri River and Mangatangi Stream catchments be included in the Waikato Region and Waikato District subject to some minor adjustments so that the local government boundaries conform to property boundaries**

- 3. the area between the Mangatangi Stream catchment and the Firth of Thames (the Kaiaua area) be included in Hauraki District, except for an area to the immediate south of Matingarahi Point which should remain in Auckland**
- 4. further consideration be given to the most appropriate regional boundary in the Firth of Thames**
- 5. the northern boundary of Auckland be the existing northern boundary of the Auckland Region and Rodney District**
- 6. the eastern and western coastal boundaries of Auckland remain as they are currently defined**
- 7. the apportionment of the assets and liabilities of the Franklin District Council be determined by the affected local authorities under clause 69, Schedule 3 of the Local Government Act 2002**
- 8. the regional park land located in that part of Franklin District to be included in the Waikato Region, be vested in the Auckland Council**
- 9. minor adjustments be made to the boundaries of the North Waikato-Hauraki Constituency of the Waikato Region as a consequence of the proposed southern boundary of Auckland**
- 10. the Kaiaua area be included in the Plains Ward of Hauraki District**
- 11. new representation arrangements for the Waikato District be included in the Commission's determination after recommendations on representation have been received from the Waikato District Council.**

**Organisations the Local Government Commission met  
and initial written views received**

In the period 12 September to 23 October 2009, the Local Government Commission met with:

*Local authorities*

Auckland Regional Council  
Auckland City Council  
Environment Waikato  
Franklin District Council  
Hauraki District Council  
Manukau City Council  
North Shore City Council  
Papakura District Council  
Rodney District Council  
Waikato District Council  
Waitakere City Council

*Tangata whenua/iwi*

Hauraki Trust Board  
Tamaki Regional Mana Whenua Forum  
Waikato-Tainui Te Kauhanganui Inc (marae meeting)

*Other regional interest groups*

ASB Community Trust  
Auckland Chamber of Commerce  
Committee for Auckland  
Employers and Manufacturers Association (Northern) Inc  
Federated Farmers of NZ (Auckland Province)  
Heart of the City  
Property Council New Zealand Inc  
Salvation Army Social Policy and Parliamentary Unit  
Together (Regional Amenities) Group

*Local interest groups*

Kaiaua Citizens and Ratepayers Assn  
Waiuku-Awhitu Community Board

The Local Government Commission received written correspondence from:

*Auckland Region*

1. Auckland Youth Councils
2. Combined Councils of Social Service and Companion Organisations
3. Auckland Regional Council – Councillors Office
4. Avondale Community Board
5. Counties Manukau DHB
6. Janice Dowle
7. Auckland Region and Far North Community Boards Assn
8. Ngati Whatua o Orakei Maori Trust Board
9. North Harbour Business Assn
10. Auckland Regional Council
11. Ngati Whatua Nga Rima o Kaipara Trust
12. Tim Woolfield
13. Jennifer Yorke
14. Tony Hartnett
15. Property Council NZ
16. NZ Association of Citizens Advice Bureau Inc
17. Federated Farmers

*Rodney District*

1. Bruce Mansan
2. Waiwera Property Owners & Residents Assn
3. Ross Craig
4. Wellsford Community Group
5. Jan Gordon-Walters & Richard Walters
6. Grahame Powell
7. Rodney District Council
8. Alan Norton
9. Northern Action Group
10. Mahurangi East Residents & Ratepayers Assn Inc
11. Pat Delich
12. Kaipara District Council
13. standard form submission seeking area north of Hoteo River to be amalgamated with Kaipara District or else form local board area (213 copies received)
14. Oruawharo Marae

### *North Shore City*

1. Birkenhead- Northcote Community Board
2. Glenfield Community Board
3. Grey Power
4. Ian Revell
5. George Wood
6. Bayswater Community Committee
7. Devonport Community Board
8. Devonport Heritage Inc
9. Peter Buckland
10. JE Jury
11. Duncan Grey
12. Chris Marshall
13. Grant Gillon
14. David Thornton
15. North Shore Community & Social Services Inc
16. Richard Tong
17. North Shore Cricket & Rugby Football Clubs
18. North Shore City Council

### *Auckland City*

1. Maungakiekie Community Board
2. Cr Doug Armstrong
3. Harold Marshall
4. Mt Albert Residents Assn
5. Waiheke Island Community Planning Group
6. Allen Davies
7. Grafton Residents Assn
8. Sigrid Shayer
9. Virginia Chong
10. Auckland City Council
11. Cr Denise Roche
12. Rosebank Business Assn
13. Peter Buchanan
14. Mt Wellington Licensing Trust

*Waitakere City*

1. Janet Vaughan
2. Prof AR Bellamy
3. John Smith
4. Kubi Witten-Hannah
5. Karekare Ratepayers & Residents Trust
6. Susanne Vincent
7. Pim van der Voort
8. Linda Davies
9. New Lynn Community Board
10. Bruce & Catherine Harvey
11. Jack Colmar
12. Henderson Valley Residents Assn
13. Massey Community Board
14. Gregory & Kathleen Hoskins
15. Protect Piha Heritage Society
16. Michael Terry
17. Colleen Pilcher
18. Robert Richards
19. Owen & Joy Lewis
20. Jocelyn Logan
21. Jenny McDonald
22. Kath Dewar
23. Melean Absolum
24. Dr Graeme Ramsay
25. Judy Lawley
26. Preserve the Swanson Foothills Society Inc
27. Fiona Gardner
28. John Edgar
29. Huia-Cornwallis Ratepayers & Residents Assn
30. Ron Watson
31. Caroline Phillips
32. Henderson Community Board
33. Community Waitakere Charitable Trust Inc
34. Waitakere City Council

35. Dr Mels Barton
36. Waitakere Ranges Protection Society
37. Titirangi Ratepayers & Residents Assn
38. Waiatarua Ratepayers & Residents Assn
39. Fay & Paul Swinburn
40. Ted Scott
41. John Staniland

*Manukau City-Papakura District*

1. Cr Maggie Burrill
2. Botany Community Board (minority view)
3. Botany Community Board
4. Papatoetoe Community Board
5. Pakuranga Community Board
6. Mangere Community Board
7. Clevedon Community Board
8. Otara Community Board
9. Manukau City Council
10. Howick Community Board
11. Manurewa Community Board
12. Clevedon Cares
13. Otara Community
14. Buckland & Eastern Beaches Ratepayers & Residents Assn
15. Cockle Bay Residents & Ratepayers Assn
16. Pohutukawa Coast Community Assn
17. Papakura District Council
18. Roy Bootle
19. Greater East Tamaki Business Assn

*Franklin District*

1. Brian Hosking
2. Jeda Wyatt
3. Esther Kivi
4. Penelope Aston
5. Peter & Donna Chrystall
6. Waiuku-Awhitu Community Board
7. Roger Cornish

8. Dr Paul Hutchison MP
9. George Paki
10. John & Linda Brierley
11. Tu Andrews
12. Mark Vincent
13. Sheila Firmin & Brian Connelly
14. Buckland Community Centre Inc
15. Bruce Parry
16. Aka Aka Otatau Land Drainage Committee
17. Sandra Burgess
18. Barry Birchall
19. Barry & Diane Smith
20. D George
21. F & RE Lever
22. Kathleen Sharp
23. BJ Blake
24. WJ Barriball
25. June & Paul Couch
26. AE Thomas
27. LH & DS Deine
28. Ross & Janet Miller
29. FB Brownlee
30. standard form submission seeking establishment of West Franklin Local Board (4 copies received)
31. standard form submission seeking establishment of West Franklin Local Board (12 copies received)
32. Franklin District Council
33. Joy Andrew

**Summary of key Local Government Commission  
criteria for assessing proposals**

**Wards**

Legal compliance

Recognition of communities of interest:

- geographic features
- land use/settlement patterns
- demographic characteristics
- shared vision/history
- existing boundaries

Effective representation:

- avoiding barriers to participation
- not splitting communities of interest
- not grouping unlike communities of interest
- accessibility/size/configuration
- ward arrangements that are:
  - coherent
  - understandable
  - enduring

**Local Boards**

Legal compliance

Recognition of communities of interest:

- geographic features
- land use/settlement patterns
- demographic characteristics
- shared vision/history
- community services/facilities/focal points
- existing boundaries

Effective representation:

- avoiding barriers to participation
- not splitting communities of interest

- not grouping unlike communities of interest
- accessibility/size/configuration
- subdivision arrangements that are:
  - coherent
  - understandable
  - enduring

Effective governance:

- capacity to generate resources for local decision-making
- ability to engage effectively with Auckland Council
- appropriate area to perform functions, duties and powers

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