



## Determination

of representation arrangements to apply for  
the election of Western Bay of Plenty District Council  
to be held on 12 October 2019

### Background

1. All territorial authorities are required under sections 19H and 19J of the Local Electoral Act 2001 (the Act) to review their representation arrangements at least every six years. These reviews are to determine the number of councillors to be elected, the basis of election for councillors and, if this includes wards, the boundaries and names of those wards. Reviews also include whether there are to be community boards and, if so, membership arrangements for those boards. Representation arrangements are to be determined so as to provide fair and effective representation for individuals and communities.
2. The Western Bay of Plenty District Council (the council) last reviewed its representation arrangements prior to the 2013 local authority elections. Therefore, it was required to undertake a review prior to the next elections in October 2019.
3. At the time of the last review, the council's initial proposal was for a council comprising the mayor and eight councillors, reduced from the existing 12, elected from three wards. The number of councillors was increased to 11 in the council's final proposal still elected from three wards. The council also proposed to retain the existing five community boards with each comprising four elected and two appointed members. A total of 97 appeals/objections (including 77 form letters) were received.
4. After considering the appeals/objections, the Commission endorsed the council's proposal for 11 councillors elected from three wards. As a result, the ward arrangements for the 2013 and subsequent 2016 elections were as set out in the following table.

Ward	Population*	Number of councillors per ward	Population per councillor	Deviation from district average population per councillor	% deviation from district average population per councillor
Katikati-Waihi Beach	12,165	3	4,055	-110	-2.64
Kaimai	16,375	4	4,094	-71	-1.70
Maketu-Te Puke	17,270	4	4,318	+153	+3.67
<b>Total</b>	<b>45,810</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>4,165</b>		

\*Based on Statistics NZ 2011 population estimates

5. The Commission also endorsed the council's proposals for the existing five community boards (Katikati, Waihi Beach, Omokoroa, Maketu and Te Puke).

6. For its current review, the council undertook some informal consultation with the community, using a variety of communication and engagement channels, between 12 March and 6 April 2018. This was with a view to gaining community views on where residents and ratepayers identified their communities of interest and how they viewed the current representation model in terms of this identification and the meeting of their needs for fair representation.
7. From this work the council “identified that the current five community board model no longer reflected the different communities which had changed since the boards were established in 1989, through growth and development in different areas across the district”.
8. “To address the changing face of the district and to achieve a fairer representation model, council has formulated initial representation arrangements which propose:
  - the number of wards across the district remain at the current three wards of Katikati-Waihi Beach, Kaimai and Maketu-Te Puke with one minor boundary adjustment between the Katikati-Waihi Beach and Kaimai wards ...
  - councillor numbers remain at 11 to achieve fair and effective representation within a three-ward model ...
  - the current five community boards be disestablished and replaced post-election with three ward committees with appointed community representation from identified communities of interest within the relevant districts.”
9. At a meeting on 10 July 2018, the council adopted the above model as its initial representation proposal.
10. This resulted in the following proposed ward arrangements.

Ward	Population*	Number of councillors per ward	Population per councillor	Deviation from district average population per councillor	% deviation from district average population per councillor
Katikati-Waihi Beach	13,500	3	4,500	+50	+1.12
Kaimai	17,850	4	4,463	+13	+0.29
Maketu-Te Puke	17,600	4	4,400	-50	-1.12
<b>Total</b>	<b>48,950</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>4,450</b>		

\*Based on Statistics NZ 2017 population estimates

11. The council notified its initial proposal on 24 July 2018 and received 460 submissions.
12. In notifying its final proposal, the council analysed the submissions as follows:
  - a) the proposal to disestablish community boards and replace them with community committees:
    - i. 377 opposed with 189 wanting community boards retained and 62 opposed to the proposed community committee appointment process
    - ii. 48 supported
  - b) the proposed minor ward boundary alteration:
    - i. 65 opposed

- ii. 60 supported
    - c) the proposed number of councillors (11) and wards (3):
      - i. 4 opposed.
13. At a meeting on 20 September 2018, the council, after considering the submissions, resolved to adopt its final representation proposal as follows:
- a) the number of councillors, number of wards and minor boundary alteration between two wards as proposed in the council's initial proposal
  - b) retention of four of the five current community boards with their current membership, including one small boundary alteration to the Katikati community
  - c) disestablishment of Omokoroa Community Board
  - d) establishment of a ward councillor committee consisting of the respective ward councillors for each of the following areas:
    - i. whole of Kaimai Ward
    - ii. eastern end of Maketu-Te Puke Ward i.e. all areas not included in the Te Puke and Maketu community boards
    - iii. Matakana Island and Rangiwaea Island of Katikati-Waihi Beach Ward i.e. all the areas not included in the Waihi Beach and Katikati community boards.
14. In notifying its final proposal, the council gave the following reasons for its decisions:
- a) The council is of the view that the current three-ward structure, subject to the proposed ward boundary change, satisfactorily represents the district's communities of interest. It also believes that membership of 11 councillors (plus the mayor) is sufficient to ensure effective representation is provided to constituents.
  - b) The reason for the minor ward boundary adjustment between Kaimai Ward and Katikati-Waihi Beach Ward (and an extension of the Katikati Community Board area) is to better align communities of interest (as identified in the preliminary consultation process).
  - c) The reason for retaining four of the five community boards is the overwhelming number of submissions received supporting the retention of community boards in their area. The reason for disestablishing Omokoroa Community Board is to achieve better representation by establishing a ward councillor committee for all Kaimai Ward.
  - d) To better represent constituents where there are no community boards, ward councillor committees are to be established. Council is of the view that ward councillor committees enable different communities (urban and rural) within the same ward to better address their own interests; and to provide direct contact for Kaimai Ward, the eastern end of Maketu-Te Puke Ward and Matakana Island and Rangiwaea Island residents with their ward councillors.
15. The final representation proposal was notified on 4 October 2018 and appeals/objections invited by 5 November 2018. Eleven appeals/objections against the council's final proposal were received.

## Appeals/objections against the council's final proposal

16. Appeals/objections against the council's final proposal were received from:

- Karen Summerhays – appealed against the decision not to adopt a mixed system of representation.
- Anthony Te Uruhi Wihapi on behalf of Ngati Moko Marae Committee – objected to the proposal given the absence of Māori representation and on this basis sought a reduction in the number of members; and did not support the retention of four community boards or establishment of ward councillor committees.
- Jo Gravit – appealed against the ward and community representation proposals and sought a reduction in the number of councillors and establishment of three democratically elected ward-based community committees.
- Josephne Burrell – appealed against “wider boundaries and fewer councils” and also provisions for the appointment of committee members.
- Norman Mayo – appealed against the reduction in wards from five to three; non-inclusion of Matakana Island in Kaimai Ward; disestablishment of Omokoroa Community Board.
- Western Ward Residents & Ratepayers Assn. – appealed against non-inclusion of Matakana Island in Kaimai Ward; establishment of ward councillor committees; disestablishment of Omokoroa Community Board and non-establishment of two new community boards; non-establishment of separate Waihi Beach Ward.
- Keith Hay – appealed against the non-inclusion of Matakana Island in Kaimai Ward; disestablishment of Omokoroa Community Board; non-establishment of two new community boards; non-establishment of separate Waihi Beach Ward.
- Peter & Dianne Dudfield – appealed against the provisions for representation for the Waihi Beach/Bowentown area; and the lack of clarity regarding the constitution of ward councillor committees.
- George van Dyke – appealed against the proposal to establish ward councillor committees rather than new community boards.
- Murray Grainger – objected to the proposed ward councillor committee arrangements.
- Michael Kingston – appealed against the proposed community board and ward councillor committee arrangements.

### *Hearing of appeals/objections*

17. The Commission met with the council and seven of the appellants/objectors who wished to be heard, at a hearing held in Tauranga on 20 February 2019.
18. The council was represented by mayor Garry Webber and chief executive Miriam Taris.

## *Matters raised at hearing and in appeals/objections*

### *Western Bay of Plenty District Council*

19. The mayor gave a presentation outlining the process the council had undertaken during the review and the decisions reached. This included preliminary consultation which attracted 970 responses with mixed feedback on representation options.
20. The mayor referred to the commitment made by the council at the time of the last representation review in 2013 to comprehensively review community board effectiveness. This was in light of the fact the existing community boards covered only 40 per cent of the district. He said the council had now undertaken a review, beginning by seeking residents' views on the communities of interest making up the district.
21. As a result of this review, the council had identified 11 communities of interest. It considered these were reflected in the current three-ward structure with one minor alteration in the boundary between two wards. This was the basis of the council's initial proposal including disestablishment of the existing five community boards and their replacement with three ward committees. He said it was the council's intention that the membership of these committees would be determined through a democratic process though this may not have been made clear by the council.
22. In light of the opposition to disestablishment of the community boards in submissions received on the council's initial proposal, the council was now proposing retention of four of the existing community boards. In relation to the fifth board, Omokoroa, the council considered it would be more equitable and effective to have a ward committee covering all Kaimai Ward. It was also the intention to have ward committees, including ward councillors, in the other two wards for the areas outside the existing community board areas. This would result in district-wide representation at this level.

### *Karen Summerhays*

23. Ms Summerhays said she was concerned the process for consideration of submissions on the council's initial proposal had been truncated with the mayor and four councillors hearing those submissions. She thought her submission, seeking a mixed system of representation with two councillors elected at large, had not been considered in its entirety.
24. She believed the community of interest of the district as a whole needed to be acknowledged and represented. With the growth in the north of the district, current arrangements were not fair for areas like Te Puke, and at large councillors would be able to support the ward councillors. At large representation could also incorporate representation for tangata whenua.

### *Jo Gravit*

25. Ms Gravit read a prepared submission which covered the review process including the reliance placed on online communication and council decision-making on the options. She said she supported establishment of three ward-based community boards, with more consultation on the boundaries for these boards. If these boards were well resourced and had clear delegated powers, then a total of just seven councillors would be necessary.

*Anthony Te Uruhi Wihapi*

26. Mr Wihapi, on behalf of Ngati Moko Marae Committee, read a submission in support of a formal objection against the council's final representation proposal. This submission was that 60 percent of eligible electors did not vote in the poll on the decision of the council to establish a Maori ward, with only 30 percent voting against that proposal. The result of the poll was, therefore, not the resounding result promoted. The submission was for the Commission to take this into account in making its final determination.
27. The objection to the council's proposal was that the community is seriously over represented on the council by one culture to the detriment of the Treaty partner and that this over-representation requires the council to be reduced. In relation to the final proposal, the submission was the council be reduced to 8 members, including the mayor, from the present three wards and that the four community boards be disestablished. The proposed ward councillor committees are also an unnecessary over duplication.

*Norman Mayo*

28. Mr Mayo said the 'proof of the pudding' of the final proposal, particularly in relation to the ward councillor committees, will be in the council making it work. He said the nature of the district was such that particular areas could easily be forgotten and he still favoured five wards rather than three for this reason. This was also why residents' and ratepayers' associations were set up such as in Katikati. Mr Mayo said he did not think communities of interest in the district were properly identified and recognised. He tabled a diagram of the Smart Growth initiative as a model for involvement by Maori.

*Keith Hay/Western Ward Residents & Ratepayers Association*

29. Keith Hay read a submission also on behalf of the Western Ward Residents & Ratepayers Association, which had recently changed its name to Katikati-Waihi Beach Residents & Ratepayers Association to better reflect its area of interest. The submission stated that the association was not convinced the boundary change was necessary to better align communities of interest.
30. The submission sought, in particular, that Matakana Island be moved to Kaimai Ward, the proposed boundary change be abandoned and that the council take population growth projections into account instead of proposing unnecessary boundary changes in future. The association also supported Waihi Beach having its own ward as previously, the retention of all community boards, including Omokoroa, with further boards established in the parts of Kaimai and Maketu-Te Puke wards without community boards.

*George van Dyke*

31. Mr van Dyke spoke in support of the retention of existing community boards and the establishment of new boards for those areas within Kaimai and Maketu-Te Puke wards currently without boards. He said the current boards worked well and members generally knew each other and what the boards were doing. There had also been a lack of communication by the council about the role of boards.

## *Murray Grainger*

32. Mr Grainger, who is also chairperson of the Omokoroa Community Board, appeared at the hearing in a personal capacity. He said he wished to focus on the unequal representation that would occur from the proposed ward councillor committees with one committee of three councillors proposed for Matakana and Rangiwaea islands with a population of less than 300 (one representative per 100 residents) compared to one committee of four councillors for the whole Kaimai Ward (one representative per 4,100 people).
33. Mr Grainger also said he believed the proposed boundary change was flawed and he suggested an amended boundary adjustment based on what he considered to be the community of interest in the area. He said if community boards were to be retained, he believed there should be one each for the eastern and western areas of Kaimai Ward.

## **Matters for determination by the Commission**

34. Section 19R of the Act makes it clear that the Commission, in addition to consideration of the appeals and objections against a council's final representation proposal, is required to determine, in the case of a territorial authority, all the matters set out in sections 19H and 19J which relate to the representation arrangements for territorial authorities. This interpretation was reinforced by a 2004 High Court decision which found that the Commission's role is not merely supervisory of a local authority's representation arrangements decision. The Commission is required to form its own view on all the matters which are in scope of the review.
35. Given this requirement, any concerns expressed by appellants/objectors relating to the council's review process are not matters that the Commission needs to address. We may, however, comment on a council's process if we believe it would be of assistance to the council in a future review.
36. The matters in scope of the review are:
  - whether the council is to be elected from wards, the district as a whole, or a mix of the two
  - the number of councillors
  - if there are to be wards, the area, boundaries and names of wards and the number of councillors to be elected from each ward
  - whether there are to be community boards
  - if there are to be community boards, the area, boundaries and names of their communities, and the membership arrangements for each board.

## ***Key considerations***

37. Based on legislative requirements, the Commission's *Guidelines for local authorities undertaking representation reviews* identify the following three key factors when considering representation proposals:
  - communities of interest
  - effective representation of communities of interest
  - fair representation for electors.

### ***Communities of interest***

38. The Guidelines identify three dimensions for recognising communities of interest:
- *perceptual*: a sense of identity and belonging to a defined area or locality as a result of factors such as distinctive geographical features, local history, demographics, economic and social activities
  - *functional*: ability of the area to meet the needs of communities for services such as local schools, shopping areas, community and recreational facilities, employment, transport and communication links
  - *political*: ability to represent the interests of local communities which includes non-council structures such as for local iwi and hapū, residents and ratepayer associations and the range of special interest groups.
39. We note that in many cases councils, communities and individuals tend to focus on the perceptual dimension of communities of interest. That is, they focus on what intuitively they ‘feel’ are existing communities of interest. While this is a legitimate view, more evidence may be required to back this up. It needs to be appreciated that the other dimensions, particularly the functional one, are important and that they can also reinforce the ‘sense’ of identity with an area. In other words, all three dimensions are important but should not be seen as independent of each other.
40. In addition to evidence demonstrating existing communities of interest, evidence also needs to be provided of *differences* between neighbouring communities i.e. that they may have “few commonalities”. This could include the demographic characteristics of an area (e.g. age, ethnicity, deprivation profiles) and how these differ between areas, and evidence of how different communities rely on different services and facilities.
41. In the case of Western Bay of Plenty, the district is a mix of coastal, urban and rural areas circling Tauranga City and stretching from Waihi Beach in the west to Otamarakau in the east. Communities of interest in the district were recognised at the time of its constitution in 1989, with establishment of five wards for Waihi Beach, Katikati, Kaimai, Maketu and Te Puke. Both Waihi Beach and Katikati, and also Maketu and Te Puke were seen to have sufficient commonalities for these areas to be combined into new wards in 2013 thereby reducing the number of wards to three.

### ***Effective representation of communities of interest***

42. Section 19T of the Act requires the Commission to ensure that:
- the election of members of the council, in one of the ways specified in section 19H (i.e. at large, wards, or a mix of both) will provide effective representation of communities of interest within the city
  - ward boundaries coincide with the boundaries of the current statistical meshblock areas determined by Statistics New Zealand and used for parliamentary electoral purposes
  - so far as is practicable, ward boundaries coincide with community boundaries (where they exist).
43. ‘Effective representation’ is not defined in the Act, but the Commission sees this as requiring consideration of factors including the appropriate total number of elected members and the appropriate basis of election of members for the district concerned (at large, wards, or a mix of both).

44. We note the council comprised 12 councillors from its constitution in 1989 until the 2013 elections when this number was reduced to 11. Two appellants/objectors sought a reduction in the current number of councillors.
45. One appellant sought a reduction on the basis that three “democratically elected ward-based committees” are established. We address the issue of local community representation later in this determination.
46. One objector sought a reduction given what he saw as an absence of representation of one Treaty of Waitangi partner and over-representation of the other. His concern arose from the council’s proposal for the establishment of Māori wards in the district being defeated at a poll of electors.
47. While closely related, the issue of Māori representation by way of Māori wards, is a separate process from the representation review process now being determined. The statutory criteria we are required to apply at this stage in the process are for the fair representation of electors and effective representation of communities of interest. This determination sets out our findings and conclusions on the application of these criteria.
48. The Commission’s Guidelines note the following factors need to be considered when determining effective representation:
  - avoiding arrangements that may create barriers to participation, such as at elections by not recognising residents’ familiarity and identity with an area
  - not splitting recognised communities of interest between electoral subdivisions
  - not grouping together two or more communities of interest that share few commonalities of interest
  - accessibility, size and configuration of an area including access to elected members and vice versa.
49. As noted, Western Bay of Plenty District has been divided into wards since its constitution in 1989, with initially five and now three wards. At least some element of ward representation does seem to us to be appropriate, given the size and geography of the district.
50. We note one appellant sought the introduction of a mixed at large-wards system of representation. She believed this was necessary to reflect the community of interest at the district level and it would help balance representation given high growth in the north-west part of the district.
51. We note firstly, there are pros and cons to each of the options for the basis of election. Secondly, a council is generally in the best position to assess these pros and cons in relation to its own district, as it will know the area better than the Commission. This view, however, is subject to the council going through a good process in assessing the pros and cons, and carefully considering community views throughout the process. In such a case, we see it as appropriate for the Commission to endorse a council’s decision on options such as the basis of election.
52. We heard from the appellant that she was not satisfied the council had seriously considered the mixed system as the basis of election for Western Bay of Plenty District. However, the council later assured us that this option had been the subject of consultation. On this basis, and given just one appellant raised this matter, we are

sufficiently satisfied to endorse the council's proposal to retain the ward system of representation.

53. The council also proposed to retain the current three wards subject to a boundary alteration between the Katikati-Waihi Beach and Kaimai wards. One objector suggested an adjustment to this based on what he considered to be community of interest grounds. We asked the council to comment on this suggestion and subsequently received its advice.
54. The council outlined the process it had gone through in reaching its decision to propose the altered boundary. This began with preliminary consultation in March – April 2018 from which the council received 970 items of feedback including the identification of 34 communities of interest. These were subsequently grouped, based on commonalities, into 11 wider communities of interest using councillors' knowledge of the areas concerned. We were advised that the proposed boundary alteration between Katikati-Waihi Beach and Kaimai wards arose from this work "based on Pahoia residents sharing common links with Katikati e.g. educational (including High School), shopping, social link connections".
55. The council noted that of 422 submissions received on its initial proposal, 297 did not have an opinion on the proposed boundary alteration while 60 supported it and 65 did not. It also noted that most of those who did not support the alteration were residents of Waihi Beach who were possibly concerned at the impact on representation for that area by adding the proposed additional area in the east of the ward.
56. While some debate on the exact most appropriate location of this ward boundary may still be possible, we see this as a matter for the council to resolve. In the meantime, we are satisfied that the council has considered the matter sufficiently for us to endorse the council's proposal in relation to the boundary alteration.
57. A further matter that was raised in the appeals/objections and also arose during the hearing was the suggestion that Matakana and Rangiwaea islands would be more appropriately located in Kaimai Ward rather than in Katikati-Waihi Beach Ward as they are at present. We have undertaken some further consultation on this matter with local iwi and raised it specifically with the council. As a result, we have decided not to make any change. This reflects the advice we received that it was a deliberate decision to locate Matakana and Rangiwaea islands in Katikati-Waihi Beach Ward based on whakapapa connections to Tamawhariua at Katikati. While local iwi on the islands currently have concerns about their representation, the location of the islands in Katikati-Waihi Beach Ward is not one of these concerns.
58. In summary, we have decided to endorse the council's proposal for the retention of the existing three wards subject to the boundary alteration between the Katikati-Waihi Beach and Kaimai wards as proposed by the council, electing a total of 11 councillors. We believe this will achieve effective representation for the communities of interest making up Western Bay of Plenty District.
59. We note the Commission has received an application for a boundary alteration between Western Bay of Plenty District and Tauranga City seeking the transfer of an area from the district to the city, which it now needs to address. The nature of the statutory reorganisation process, including a requirement to invite alternative applications, means the exact outcome of this process cannot be predicted at this time. In the event that a boundary alteration is made, this may have an impact on the

communities of interest of the district and their future effective representation. This would need to be taken into account in the council's next representation review.

### ***Fair representation for electors***

60. For the purposes of fair representation for the electors of a district, section 19V(2) of the Act requires that the population of each ward divided by the number of members to be elected by that ward must produce a figure no more than 10 per cent greater or smaller than the population of the district divided by the total number of members (the '+/-10% rule').
61. The council's proposal for a council comprising the mayor and 11 councillors elected from three wards, complies with the rule.

### ***Communities and community boards***

62. Section 19J of the Act requires every territorial authority, as part of its review of representation arrangements, to determine whether there should be community boards in the district and, if so, the nature of those communities and the structure of the community boards. The territorial authority must make this determination in light of the principle in section 4 of the Act relating to fair and effective representation for individuals and communities.
63. The particular matters the territorial authority, and where appropriate the Commission, must determine include the number of boards to be constituted, their names and boundaries, the number of elected and appointed members, and whether the boards are to be subdivided for electoral purposes. Section 19W also requires regard to be given to such of the criteria as apply to reorganisation proposals under the Local Government Act 2002 as is considered appropriate. The Commission sees two of these criteria as particularly relevant for the consideration of proposals relating to community boards as part of a representation review:
  - Will a community board have an area that is appropriate for the efficient and effective performance of its role?
  - Will the community contain a sufficiently distinct community or communities of interest?
64. There have been five community boards (Waihi Beach, Katikati, Omokoroa, Maketu and Te Puke) in Western Bay of Plenty District since 1989.
65. The council initially proposed to disestablish all five boards as part of the current review and replace these with "three ward committees with appointed community representation from identified communities of interest within the relevant districts". However, in light of "the overwhelming number of submissions received supporting the retention of community boards in their area" the council is now proposing to retain four boards and disestablish the fifth, the Omokoroa Community Board. It considers it will achieve "better representation" for the latter area by establishing a ward councillor committee for all the Kaimai Ward.
66. We note a minor boundary alteration to the area of Katikati Community Board is proposed in order that the board's boundary coincides with the altered boundary between Katikati-Waihi Beach Ward and Kaimai Ward. As noted, the altered ward boundary arises from the council's consideration of communities of interest in the area. The alteration to the community board boundary is therefore appropriate and in line with the provisions of section 19U(c) of the Act that ward and community board

boundaries, so far as is practicable, coincide. Accordingly, we endorse this proposed community board boundary alteration.

67. The council is proposing that Omokoroa Community Board be disestablished on the basis that a ward councillors committee for all Kaimai Ward would achieve “better representation”.
68. We note that eight of the 11 appellants/objectors expressed concerns about the council’s proposals for ward councillor committees. These concerns included a lack of clarity about their role and purpose, the appointment process for non-councillor members and, as initially proposed, the committees as replacements for the democratically elected community boards.
69. The establishment of ward/community committees of any form, unlike community boards, is not a matter that comes within the scope of a representation review. Accordingly, we are not able to make any determination in respect of the council’s proposed ward councillor committees. These are matters for the council to consider further and on which to make recommendations to the incoming council following the October elections.
70. However, we note the appellants’ concerns about the committees and, while with one exception they are no longer proposed as replacements for the existing community boards, we are also unclear about their comparative status and role vis-à-vis the current community boards. We did seek some more information about the proposed committees from the council including such matters as proposed delegations. We remain unclear and, in the case of the proposed replacement of Omokoroa Community Board, unconvinced an all of Kaimai Ward committee would provide effective representation for the Omokoroa community.
71. Accordingly we have determined that the Omokoroa Community Board will be retained, with its current membership, alongside the other four existing community boards which will also retain their current membership.
72. We suggest the council gives further consideration to the matter of local community representation across Western Bay of Plenty District and what objectives it is wishing to achieve. We note the council has gone to considerable effort to identify 11 groupings of communities of interest across the district and it appears to us that this is the appropriate starting point for this consideration. These groupings, or further combinations of the groupings, could then be a good base for effective local community representation structures. Depending on the role intended for these structures, the council would then be in a position to consider the relative merits of community boards, community committees or other forms of structure across the district.

### **Commission’s determination**

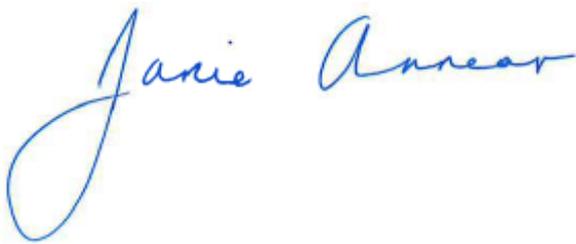
73. Under section 19R of the Local Electoral Act 2001, the Commission determines that for the general election of Western Bay of Plenty District Council to be held on 12 October 2019, the following representation arrangements will apply:
  1. Western Bay of Plenty District, as delineated on Plan LG-022-2019-W-1 deposited with the Local Government Commission, will be divided into three wards.

2. Those three wards will be:
    - a) Katikati-Waihi Beach Ward, comprising the area delineated on Plan LG-022-2019-W-2 deposited with the Local Government Commission
    - b) Kaimai Ward, comprising the area delineated on Plan LG-022-2019-W-2 deposited with the Local Government Commission
    - c) Maketu-Te Puke Ward, comprising the area delineated on Plan LG-022-2013-W-4 deposited with the Local Government Commission
  3. The council will comprise the mayor and 11 councillors elected as follows:
    - a) 3 councillors elected by the electors of Katikati-Waihi Beach Ward
    - b) 4 councillors elected by the electors of Kaimai Ward
    - c) 4 councillors elected by the electors of Maketu-Te Puke Ward
  4. There will be five communities as follows:
    - a) Katikati Community, comprising the area delineated on Plan LG-022-2019-Com-1 deposited with the Local Government Commission
    - b) Waihi Beach Community, comprising the area delineated on SO Plan 58078 deposited with Land Information New Zealand
    - c) Omokoroa Community, comprising the area delineated on SO Plan 382062 deposited with Land Information New Zealand
    - d) Maketu Community, comprising the area delineated on SO Plan 58102 deposited with Land Information New Zealand
    - e) Te Puke Community, comprising the area delineated on SO Plan 58076 deposited with Land Information New Zealand.
  5. The membership of each community board will be as follows:
    - a) Katikati Community Board will comprise four elected members and two members appointed to the community board by the council representing Katikati-Waihi Beach Ward
    - b) Waihi Beach Community Board will comprise four elected members and two members appointed to the community board by the council representing Katikati-Waihi Beach Ward
    - c) Omokoroa Community Board will comprise four elected members and two members appointed to the community board by the council representing Kaimai Ward
    - d) Maketu Community Board will comprise four elected members and two members appointed to the community board by the council representing Maketu-Te Puke Ward
    - e) Te Puke Community Board will comprise four elected members and two members appointed to the community board by the council representing Maketu-Te Puke Ward.
74. As required by sections 19T(b) and 19W(c) of the Local Electoral Act 2001, the boundaries of the above wards and communities coincide with the boundaries of current statistical meshblock areas determined by Statistics New Zealand and used for parliamentary electoral purposes.

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMISSION**

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Commissioner Pita Paraone (Chairperson)

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Janie Annear', with a large, stylized initial 'J'.

Commissioner Janie Annear

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B. J. Duffy', with a large, stylized initial 'B'.

Commissioner Brendan Duffy

8 April 2019