LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMISSION
MANA KĀWANATANGA Ā ROHE

Determination

of representation arrangements to apply for
the election of the Gisborne District Council
to be held on 12 October 2013

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, arrangements for those boards. Representation arrangements are to be determined so as to provide fair and effective representation for individuals and communities.

2. The Gisborne District Council (the Council) last reviewed its representation arrangements prior to the 2007 local authority elections. Accordingly it was required to undertake a review prior to the next elections in October 2013.

3. As a result of its last review, the representation arrangements that applied for the 2007 and subsequent 2010 elections were for a mayor and 14 councillors elected as follows:

Ward	**Population***	**Number of councillors per ward**	**Population per councillor**	**Deviation from district average population per councillor**	**Percentage deviation from district average population per councillor**
Gisborne	33,000	8	4,125	+799	+24.00
Taruheru-Patutahi	3,800	1	3,800	+474	+14.25
Cook	1,780	1	1,780	-1,546	-46.48
Waikohu	2,060	1	2,060	-1,266	-38.06
Uawa	1,960	1	1,960	-1,366	-41.07
Waiapu	2,160	1	2,160	-1,166	-35.06
Matakaoa	1,810	1	1,810	-1,516	-45.58
TOTALS	**46,570**	**14**	**3,326**		

*These figures are updated 2011 population estimates

4. Currently Gisborne District has no community boards.

5. The Council commenced its review of representation arrangements by appointing a representation review committee, comprising the whole Council, to workshop representation issues and options. At a meeting on 29 March 2012, the committee considered an officers' report which noted that status quo arrangements did not comply with the +/-10% fair representation requirement of section 19V of the Act and identified a 'near compliant' option as a possible alternative. At that meeting, after considering the officers' report, the committee sought a further report "that would enable the Council to consider and, if so requested, to adopt the status quo representation arrangements as the initial proposal".

6. On 29 April 2012 the Council resolved, under sections 19H and 19J of the Act, its initial proposed representation arrangements to apply for the 2013 elections. The proposal was for status quo representation arrangements i.e. that the Council continue to comprise a mayor and 14 councillors elected by the current seven wards, and that no community boards be established.

7. In publicly notifying its proposal, the Council acknowledged "that as a consequence of achieving 'effective' representation in the rural areas five of those wards will be over-represented because they are isolated. There is (also) under-representation of the population in the Gisborne and Taruheru-Patutahi Wards". The Council noted that it was proposing to keep the same number of councillors elected from seven wards and that that decision relied on: agreements made at the time of local government amalgamation in 1989; the Council's unitary status; the challenges of effectively representing people and communities of interest; and having regard for the large area of the district, its remoteness and sparse population and the relative isolation.

8. The Council received 205 submissions on its initial proposal. An officers' report on the submissions identified 130 submissions (63%) as in support of the proposal and 72 submissions (35%) as opposed. Of the 72 submissions opposed to the proposal, the report noted that 35 requested that the Council adopt the 'near-compliant' representation model.

9. Following consideration of submissions, the Council on 26 July 2012 resolved to adopt its initial proposal as its final representation proposal. The Council in notifying its final proposal noted it considered that "retention of the status quo arrangements is necessary to achieve 'effective' representation".

10. Twelve appeals against the Council's final proposal were received by the deadline of 28 August 2012, and a further two late appeals were received. The Commission subsequently decided to accept the two late appeals as they addressed the same issues raised in the other appeals.

Hearing

11. The Commission met with the Council and four of the appellants at a hearing held in the Gisborne District Council Chambers on 5 October 2012. These four appellants were Clare Radomske, Douglas Birt, Alan Brown and Ron Elder. A further appellant (Jennie Hindmarsh) had requested to appear at the hearing but was unable to do so due to illness. At the request of Ms Hindmarsh, and with the agreement of all parties at the hearing, the Commission agreed to hold a telephone conference on 9 October 2012 with her and in which Council representatives also participated. The Council was represented at the hearing by the Mayor Meng Foon and Councillors Bill Burdett and Graeme Thomson.

Matters raised in appeals and at the hearing

12. The Mayor read a prepared statement outlining the Council's decision and the reasons for it. These reasons included the nature of the district particularly its geography, travel times and accessibility issues such as in relation to emergency and weather-related events like Cyclone Bola in 1988. The Mayor said the Council had consulted with Māori on the possible establishment of Māori wards in the district but such an initiative was not supported. He said the Council believed that the current ward arrangements gave Māori the best opportunity to be elected to the Council. Currently there were three Māori councillors. The Mayor said the townships of the East Coast, the western rural area and the city, while inter-related, feel quite distinct and are in effect strong communities of interest. He said local government needed to be kept local and it was at the local 'coal face' where communities have shaped their history and will shape their future. The Mayor said the Council did not support having paid community boards and he listed voluntary committees currently operating in townships throughout the district and in some suburbs of the city. The Mayor also said there was no split between rural and urban interests in the district and there was no block voting or lobbying in the Council. The Council was requesting the Commission confirm the status quo representation arrangements, arrangements that suited the district and had worked well for some 15 years.

13. Councillor Burdett supported comments made by the Mayor, saying he was in his fifth term on the Council and democracy had prevailed in this time with no negative feedback received. The area had lost services over the years and representation was a critical issue for local people. Councillor Thomson referred to written agreements made between the former councils in the area prior to local government reorganisation in 1989 and recommendations that these arrangements be retained. He refuted suggestions there had been excessive increases in urban rates and increases simply reflected growth in the urban area. Councillor Thomson said the rural area was presently getting equal representation given particular representation factors. Any consolidation of present arrangements would be unfair on councillors.

14. The appellants were opposed to the retention of status quo representation arrangements particularly in relation to fair representation requirements for wards and, in some cases, the number of councillors. Four of the appellants also opposed the non-establishment of community boards. Particular points made at the hearing included:

    - no promises were or could have been made in 1989 about future ongoing representation arrangements
    - the Council's proposal was unfair in terms of equality of votes across the district and it failed to meet legislative requirements
    - isolation was a consideration but this was relative to all areas within and outside Gisborne District at different times
    - modern communications can overcome particular issues relating to isolation
    - service from the Council can be achieved by picking up the phone
    - councillors are elected to serve the whole district
    - there needs to be a clear distinction between governance and management roles within the Council
    - the Council's community consultation and planning processes work well

- there were concerns about the balance between urban and rural services and rates
- only one representation option was put to the community and the 'near-compliant' option had been dismissed
- there was a case for a major reorganisation of the wards as established in 1989, for a review of councillor numbers and for consideration of community boards
- the Council's proposals had not been unanimous
- there should have been more education and consultation on representation options.

Requirements for determination

15. Statutory provisions relating to the determination of appeals on territorial authority representation proposals are contained in sections 19R, 19H and 19J of the Act.

19R. ***Commission to determine appeals and objections***

(1) The Commission must—

(a) Consider the resolutions, submissions, appeals, objections, and information forwarded to it under section 19Q; and

(b) Subject to sections 19T and 19V in the case of a territorial authority, and to sections 19U and 19V in the case of a regional council, determine,—

(i) In the case of a territorial authority that has made a resolution under section 19H, the matters specified in that section:

(ii) In the case of a regional council that has made a resolution under section 19I, the matters specified in that section:

(iii) In the case of a territorial authority that has made a resolution under section 19J, the matters specified in that section.

(2) For the purposes of making a determination under subsection (1)(b), the Commission—

(a) May make any enquiries that it considers appropriate; and

(b) May hold, but is not obliged to hold, meetings with the territorial authority or regional council or any persons who have lodged an appeal or objection and have indicated a desire to be heard by the Commission in relation to that appeal or objection.

(3) The Commission must, before 11 April in the year of a triennial general election, complete the duties it is required to carry out under subsection (1).

19H. ***Review of representation arrangements for elections of territorial authorities***

(1) A territorial authority must determine by resolution, and in accordance with this Part,—

(a) Whether the members of the territorial authority (other than the mayor) are proposed to be elected—

(i) By the electors of the district as a whole; or

(ii) By the electors of 2 or more wards; or

(iii) In some cases by the electors of the district as a whole and in the other cases by the electors of each ward of the district; and

(b) In any case to which paragraph (a)(i) applies, the proposed number of members to be elected by the electors of the district as a whole; and

(c) In any case to which paragraph (a)(iii) applies,—
(i) The proposed number of members to be elected by the electors of the district as a whole; and
(ii) The proposed number of members to be elected by the wards of the district; and
(d) In any case to which paragraph (a)(ii) or paragraph (a)(iii) applies,—
(i) The proposed name and the proposed boundaries of each ward; and
(ii) The number of members proposed to be elected by the electors of each ward.

(2) The determination required by subsection (1) must be made by a territorial authority —
(a) On the first occasion, either in 2003 or in 2006; and
(b) Subsequently, at least once in every period of 6 years after the first determination.

(3) This section must be read in conjunction with section 19ZH and Schedule 1A.

19J. ***Review of community boards***

(1) A territorial authority must, on every occasion on which it passes a resolution under section 19H, determine by that resolution, and in accordance with this Part, not only the matters referred to in that section but also whether, in light of the principle set out in section 4(1)(a) (which relates to fair and effective representation for individuals and communities) —
(a) There should be communities and community boards; and
(b) If so resolved, the nature of any community and the structure of any community board.

(2) The resolution referred to in subsection (1) must, in particular, determine—
(a) Whether 1 or more communities should be constituted:
(b) Whether any community should be abolished or united with another community:
(c) Whether the boundaries of a community should be altered:
(d) Whether a community should be subdivided for electoral purposes or whether it should continue to be subdivided for electoral purposes, as the case may require:
(e) Whether the boundaries of any subdivision should be altered:
(f) The number of members of any community board:
(g) The number of members of a community board who should be elected and the number of members of a community board who should be appointed:
(h) Whether the members of a community board who are proposed to be elected are to be elected—
(i) By the electors of the community as a whole; or
(ii) By the electors of 2 or more subdivisions; or
(iii) If the community comprises 2 or more whole wards, by the electors of each ward:
(i) in any case to which paragraph (h)(ii) applies, -
(i) The proposed name and the proposed boundaries of each subdivision; and
(ii) The number of members proposed to be elected by the electors of each subdivision.

(3) Nothing in this section limits the provisions of section 19F.

16. Other statutory provisions the Commission is required to consider include those set out in sections 19A, 19C, 19F, 19G, 19T and 19V and these are addressed below.

Consideration by the Commission

17. The steps in the process for achieving required fair and effective representation are not statutorily prescribed. As reflected in its *'Guidelines to assist local authorities in undertaking representation reviews'* , the Commission believes that the following steps in determining representation arrangements will achieve a robust outcome that is in accordance with the statutory criteria:

    a) identify the district's communities of interest

    b) determine the best means of providing effective representation of the identified communities of interest

    c) determine fair representation for electors of the district.

Communities of interest

18. The Guidelines identify three dimensions for recognising communities of interest:

    - perceptual: a sense of belonging to an area or locality
    - functional: the ability to meet the community's requirements for services
    - political: the ability to represent the interests and reconcile conflicts of the community.

19. The Commission considers that the case for specific representation of distinct and recognisable communities of interest will need to reflect these dimensions.

Effective representation of communities of interest

20. 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 combination of both) will provide effective representation of communities of interest within the district
    - 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.

21. While not a prescribed statutory requirement, the Guidelines also suggest that local authorities consider the total number of members, or a range in the number of members, necessary to provide effective representation for the district as a whole. In other words, the total number of members should not be arrived at solely as the product of the number of members per ward.

22. Section 19A of the Act provides that a territorial authority shall consist of between 5 and 29 elected members (excluding the mayor). The Council was established as a unitary authority in 1989 comprising 16 members (excluding the mayor). The number of members reduced to 15 in 1995 and to 14 in 1998 and has remained at this number since. Several of the appellants raised the issue of the total number of elected members and the need for this to be addressed in the context of the review.

23. We note that it is important for the Council as a unitary authority to be structured appropriately in order to separate decision-making on regulatory and non-regulatory responsibilities as prescribed in the governance principles set out in section 39 of the Local Government Act 2002. We were not presented with evidence that the range in

the number of members that has occurred since 1989, i.e. between 14 and 16 members (excluding the mayor), was not appropriate for achieving this principle.

24. We do note, however, that several appellants suggested there should be a reduction in the total number of members on the grounds of reducing Council costs. Cost is not a criterion under the Act in relation to representation arrangements. But in any event total elected member costs are not directly related to the number of elected members as the Remuneration Authority determines a remuneration pool for a district based on other criteria and then this is divided amongst the number of elected members the local authority has.

25. The Guidelines state that decisions relating to the representation of communities of interest (the political dimension) will need to take account of the extent that distinct geographical communities of interest can be identified, i.e. a physical boundary is able to be defined below the district level for the community of interest. From its constitution in 1989, Gisborne District has been divided into wards. There were 11 wards (including three for the Gisborne City area) for both the 1989 and 1992 elections, and this reduced to seven wards from the 1995 elections onwards.

26. Given the size, geography, topography and dispersed nature of settlements outside the main urban area, we believe a ward system continues to be an appropriate basis of election for Gisborne District in order to provide effective representation for distinct communities of interest in the district. We do note, however, there was some support in the community and by some appellants for consideration of an at large basis of election and for adoption of the STV electoral system. If, for example, the STV electoral system were to be adopted in future, this would be a factor to consider when determining an appropriate basis of election. These are appropriately matters for the Council to consult the community on as part of future representation reviews.

27. We also note that there was some support amongst appellants for consideration of establishment of Māori wards in the district. As with the choice of electoral system (i.e. FPP or STV), the option to establish Māori wards is not a matter for the Commission to determine. However, the Council did advise us that it had consulted and given consideration to this option as part of its review. In line with our good practice Guidelines, we encourage the Council in future reviews to continue to view the issues of electoral system, Māori representation and basis of election as inter-related, and worthy of well-planned and robust community consultation prior to the statutorily prescribed consultation on specific representation arrangements.

28. The current wards in the rural area of the district (Matakaoa, Waiapu, Uawa, Waikohu, Cook and Taruheru-Patutahi Wards) still largely reflect historic divisions that existed prior to 1989 under the former Waiapu, Waikohu and Cook Counties. In identifying the 'near compliant' ward structure as a possible alternative option, Council officers did address the question of whether existing wards still reflected current communities of interest in the district. They concluded that the alternative structure (involving the splitting of Waiapu Ward between the Matakaoa and Uawa Wards, and the amalgamation of the Waikohu and Cook Wards) better represented communities of interest in and around Ruatoria and the Waiapu River catchment, and in the western rural area.

29. As a unitary authority, we think it is important in Gisborne that both governance and management arrangements facilitate catchment management including, for example, relevant flood zones. We were attracted, as a result, by the option to combine the northern part of the Waiapu Ward with the Matakaoa Ward so that the Waiapu River catchment was totally within one ward rather than the river being a boundary between

two wards as at present. This would provide more effective representation for communities of interest associated with the catchment.

30. The northern tip of Waiapu Ward and Matakaoa Ward share similar characteristics in terms of demographics and transport issues. All of the combined area is a 10th decile deprivation area and is within an area identified by the Tairawhiti DHB in which general practitioner visits are funded in recognition of the level of deprivation. Council officers noted a Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Porou office is based in Ruatoria which services communities in the combined area, and that there are secondary schools in Ruatoria and Te Araroa with students often travelling between both areas to attend these schools.

31. The remainder of Waiapu Ward and the Uawa Ward also have similar community characteristics in relation to demographics and transport issues. This area has a high proportion of 8th and 9th decile deprivation areas and the northern portion of the combined area is within the Tairawhiti DHB designated special funding area. Students from this area attend Tologa Bay Area School and the school is described as acting as a focal point for sporting and cultural events for communities in the area.

32. According to the officers' report, the two proposed new wards could be defined by meshblocks that coincide with physical and topographical features (ridgelines and rivers) that are well known to local communities. They described the extended Matakaoa Ward geographically as a form of basin bounded by the Raukumara Ranges to the west and the coastline to the north-east while the extended Uawa Ward represents a form of corridor bounded by the Ruakumara Ranges to the west and the coastline to the east. The proposed boundary line generally aligns with marae clusters.

33. Accordingly we have determined that the current three wards in this part of the district will be reformed into two new wards called Matakaoa-Waiapu and Tawhiti-Uawa to reflect the dimensions of communities of interest in the area and to provide effective representation for these communities.

34. In respect of two other rural wards, the Waikohu and Cook Wards, the officers' report noted that there were no high schools, medical facilities or shared facilities that now support the notion of Cook Ward as a separate community of interest. This is in contrast to when the former Cook County Council included part of the current Uawa Ward. The report also noted that while there was a hub of infrastructure services (including fire, refuse transfer station, and medical clinic) based at Te Karaka in Waikohu Ward, there were no services in the Tiniroto area in Cook Ward. The Cook and Waikohu Wards share similar land use, geography and demographics. Waikohu College, as an area school, acts as a focal point for sporting and cultural events for the communities in the combined area.

35. In line with the advice provided in the Commission's Guidelines that wards be based on distinct and recognisable communities of interest reflecting the perceptual, functional and political dimensions of communities of interest, we believe there should be one ward for this area of the district. Accordingly we have determined that the Cook and Waikohu Wards will be combined to form a new ward called Waipaoa Ward. We acknowledge this will be a large ward and we address below possible options to further facilitate achievement of effective representation for the area.

36. The final rural ward is Taruheru-Patutahi Ward. This ward is characterised geographically by the Poverty Bay flats and the lower reaches of the Waipaoa River both of which are utilised by the region's agriculture, horticulture and viticulture

industries. The officers' report identified two iwi, seven hapu and six marae as affiliated to the Taruheru-Patutahi community. On this basis, as a distinct and recognisable community of interest and in the absence of specific challenges to the continuation of this ward, we agreed on the retention of the ward as currently defined.

37. One appellant proposed that the Wainui-Okitu area, currently in the Gisborne (urban) ward, be moved to become part of either Uawa Ward or Taruheru-Patutahi Ward given interests in common amongst these communities. We believe such a proposal, along with proposals to re-establish three urban wards in the Gisborne City area, require careful study and consultation with the affected communities. We note that, in respect of the Gisborne urban area, the officers' report concluded that this area was a single community of interest which was different to the communities of interest that surround it. Accordingly we do not believe it is appropriate for the Commission to make changes to the urban/peri-urban wards at this time.

Fair representation for electors

38. Section 19V of the Act requires that the electors of each ward receive fair representation having regard to the population of the district and of that ward. More specifically, section 19V(2) requires that the population of each ward divided by the number of members to be elected by that ward produces a figure no more than 10% greater or smaller than the population of the district divided by the total number of elected members (the '+/-10% fair representation rule'). None of the current seven wards in the Council's final proposal comply with the '+/-10% rule'.

39. Section 19V(3) does provide an exception to the fair representation requirement for territorial authorities. This is where effective representation of communities of interest within isolated communities is seen to require the definition of wards and the distribution of members in a way that does not comply with the '+/-10% rule'.

40. Based on 2011 population estimates, the new Matakaoa-Waiapu Ward, as discussed above, would still not comply with the '+/-10% rule' in a 14-member council. We believe, however, there are significant isolation factors which need to be considered in relation to this ward and these can be used to justify an exception to the '+/-10% rule'. We note that the southernmost tip of the current Matakaoa Ward is two hours travelling time from Gisborne City and the officers estimated up to three hours travelling time is required for representatives to meet residents in remote areas of the ward. The only highway leading into and out of the ward is SH 35 which can be and is severed from time to time such as at Kopuaroa Hill or Waiapu Bridge. Officers also noted that disruptions to power supply are common. We believe, as a result, that the ward can be seen as comprising a significant number of isolated communities of interest justifying an exception to the '+/-10% rule' for the ward as a whole.

41. Given the wording of section 19V(3), where one ward has been designated as representing an isolated community or communities of interest, it is permissible for other wards to also not comply with the '+/-10% rule'. However, we believe the principle of fair and effective representation, as set out in section 4 of the Act, should still apply as far as is practicable. On this basis we considered retention of the current 14-member council (excluding the mayor) as well as 12- and 13-member council options, to determine fair representation for the other wards in the district as far as we believe is reasonably practicable. We concluded that a 13-member council was appropriate for Gisborne District on the basis that this provided fairer representation i.e. all wards were closer to complying with the required '+/-10% rule'.

42. Our decisions on ward arrangements for Gisborne District are summarised in the following table.

Wards	Population	Number of councillors per ward	Population per councillor	Deviation from district average population per councillor	% deviation from district population per councillor
Gisborne	33,000	9	3,667	+85	+2.37
Taruheru-Patutahi	3,800	1	3,800	+218	+6.09
Waipaoa	3,840	1	3,840	+258	+7.20
Tawhiti-Uawa	3,120	1	3,120	-462	-12.90
Matakaoa-Waiapu	2,810	1	2,810	-772	-21.55
Total	**46,570**	**13**	**3,582**		

Communities and community boards

43. 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. The particular matters the territorial authority 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 sets out further criteria, as apply to local government reorganisation proposals, for determinations relating to community board reviews as considered appropriate in the circumstances.

44. We note that 53 submitters on the Council's initial representation proposal referred to the issue of community boards with 42 of these wanting to see one or more boards established. Four of the appellants also raised the issue of community boards.

45. We note further that the Mayor in his presentation to us at the hearing advised that the Council did not support having paid community boards and he described the voluntary committees presently operating throughout the district as working effectively. As also noted, several of the appellants were concerned about governance costs for the district. We acknowledge these concerns while also wishing to record, for those unaware of this fact, that half the remuneration costs of community boards are funded from the total governance fund determined by the Remuneration Authority as a fixed sum. This means only half the remuneration costs of community boards, if established, would be additional costs for the district.

46. While there appears to be some support for the establishment of community boards, at least in some areas, we believe it would not be appropriate for the Commission to constitute community boards in the district without more consultation with the community. We note there is a process in Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act 2002 for 10% of electors to petition a territorial authority at any time for the establishment of a community board in a particular area.

47. We are aware that our determination on wards will, in some cases, result in larger wards than currently exist. In these cases the Council could consider options to further enhance the achievement of effective representation. One option clearly is the establishment of community boards. Another, perhaps cheaper option, is establishment of ward committees which could include non-council members, such as farmer representatives, to provide valuable input into Council decision-making processes on issues like river catchment management.

48. There may also be opportunities, outside the formal representation structures addressed in this determination, for further engagement with iwi and hapu in particular areas of the district. At the same time, we acknowledge the efforts the Council has made to date in relation to engagement with Māori including initiatives such as the establishment of a local leadership body with local iwi as part of a Treaty of Waitangi settlement claim.

49. In short, we believe there are a range of initiatives a council can consider and possibly implement to help ensure effective engagement of local communities in council decision-making processes. These initiatives should be designed to complement the formal representation structures a council is required to have in place and may address any perceived weaknesses in such structures.

Commission's Determination

50. Under section 19R of the Local Electoral Act 2001, the Commission determines that for the general election of the Gisborne District Council to be held on 12 October 2013, the following representation arrangements will apply:

    (1) Gisborne District, as delineated on Plan LG-028-2013-W-1 deposited with the Local Government Commission, will be divided into five wards.

    (2) Those five wards will be:

        (a) the Gisborne Ward, comprising the area delineated on SO Plan 8752 deposited with the Local Government Commission

        (b) the Taruheru-Patutahi Ward, comprising the area delineated on SO Plan 8753 deposited with the Local Government Commission

        (c) the Waipaoa Ward, comprising the area delineated on Plan LG-028-2013-W-4 deposited with the Local Government Commission

        (d) the Tawhiti-Uawa Ward comprising the area delineated on Plan LG-028-2013-W-3 deposited with the Local Government Commission

        (e) the Matakaoa-Waiapu Ward comprising the area delineated on Plan LG-028-2013-W-2 deposited with the Local Government Commission.

    (3) The Council will comprise the mayor and 13 councillors elected as follows:

        (a) 9 councillors elected by the electors of the Gisborne Ward

        (b) 1 councillor elected by the electors of the Taruheru-Patutahi Ward

        (c) 1 councillor elected by the electors of the Waipaoa Ward

        (d) 1 councillor elected by the electors of the Tawhiti-Uawa Ward

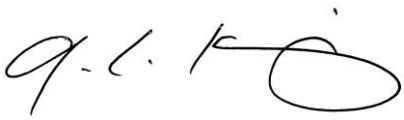
        (e) 1 councillor elected by the electors of the Matakaoa-Waiapu Ward.

51. As required by sections 19T(b) of the Local Electoral Act 2001, the boundaries of the above wards coincide with the boundaries of current statistical meshblock areas determined by Statistics New Zealand and used for Parliamentary electoral purposes.

THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMISSION

Basil Morrison (Chair)

Anne Carter (Commissioner)



Grant Kirby (Commissioner)

18 December 2012