

5 December 2006

07 DEC 2006
Darryl Griffin

WAIKAREMOA CITY COUNCIL

- 7 DEC 2006

To: Mayors, Chief Executive Officers and
Community Board Chairs
City and District Councils

INDICATIVE POOLS 2007/2008

I would like to thank the many councils who forwarded the information on financial data for the year ended 30 June 2006 in a timely manner. Unfortunately there were several which did not supply the information by the date requested and consequently this advice is a little later than we would have liked.

The enclosed tables set out the total indicative pools and Mayoral gross salary levels for the 2007/2008 financial year. In calculating the new levels the Authority has applied a base increase of 3.5% to adjustments which flow from changing relativities across the population/assets/expenditure calculations. In a few cases this has resulted in the indicative pool levels for 2007/2008 being less than those for 2006/2007. Where this has happened, the Authority has maintained the existing pool level through to the October 2007 elections. The reduced levels will apply after October 2007.

Would you please now consider the new figures and forward to the Authority, by 1 April 2007, your recommendations for the distribution of the indicative pool. (Forms enclosed.) Your assistance in meeting this deadline will enable the early issue of the new determination to be effective from 1 July 2007.

The determination we intend to issue in June 2007 will cover the period 1 July 2007 up to and including the date on which the results of the October 2007 elections are declared.

As a number of councils will have changes in the number of elected members or changes affecting community boards, the Authority intends to follow the practice used in 2004 and issue an interim determination to fix salaries to cover the period after the new councils come into office. The salary levels will be set at a conservative level to allow new councils to review committee structures, allocation of responsibilities and adjust to increased or reduced elected members. It is expected the interim determination will be promulgated in early August 2007.

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Remuneration Authority

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Telephone 04 499 3068 Facsimile 04 499 3065 Email info@remauthority.govt.nz

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New determinations to carry through to 30 June 2008 will be issued as soon as practicable once the Authority has had time to consider the recommendations from the incoming councils. Backdating of salary adjustments will normally be adopted to line up with the date on which relevant council decisions are made. Further advice on this process will be issued at the time the interim determination is issued.

Mayoral Cars

The Authority needs to obtain confirmation of details of any vehicle currently allocated to the Mayor. (Form enclosed.) It is important whenever a change in the Mayoral vehicle is authorised by council that the Authority be advised immediately in order that appropriate adjustments, up or down, can be made to the Mayoral net salary. This adjustment can only be validated through the issue of a determination.

Expenses Policy

The Authority will be writing to you in February 2007 concerning procedures we will put in place for the consideration and approval of council expenses policies.

Yours sincerely


David Dughton
Chairman

Chief Executive	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Corporate Services	<input type="checkbox"/>
City Services	<input type="checkbox"/>
City Services	<input type="checkbox"/>
Community Services	<input type="checkbox"/>
ECO - COVER	<input type="checkbox"/>
Strategic Group	<input type="checkbox"/>
General Services	<input type="checkbox"/>
Public Services	<input type="checkbox"/>

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REMUNERATION AUTHORITY - FUNDING FORMULAE AND FACTORS

District / City Council	---Population Calc---		---Expenses Calc---		---Gross Assets Calc---		---Rate of Change Calcs---		Change Factor
	Population 2005/06 12	Funding Weighting	Expenses (000)'s data entry	Funding Weighting	Assets (000)'s data entry	Funding Weighting	Population 2000/01 7	% of Change	
Auckland City	430,700	10.89%	494,645	11.71%	7,029,773	11.77%	388,800	10.78%	104.0%
Christchurch City	360,500	9.12%	329,713	7.81%	5,195,252	8.70%	335,240	7.53%	100.8%
Manukau City	339,400	8.58%	312,412	7.40%	3,478,758	5.82%	298,200	13.82%	107.1%
Wellington City	188,500	4.77%	286,329	6.78%	3,063,948	5.13%	171,100	10.17%	103.4%
North Shore City	215,300	5.44%	216,104	5.12%	3,040,525	5.09%	194,200	10.87%	104.1%
Waitakere City	194,700	4.92%	186,580	3.94%	2,158,193	3.61%	178,200	10.50%	103.7%
Dunedin City	122,900	3.11%	147,091	3.48%	2,432,078	4.07%	119,300	3.02%	100.0%
Hamilton City	133,700	3.38%	123,852	2.93%	1,570,110	2.63%	119,500	11.88%	105.1%
Hutt City	100,400	2.54%	92,994	2.20%	749,846	1.26%	99,100	1.31%	100.0%
Tauranga City	106,100	2.68%	94,797	2.24%	1,650,832	2.76%	93,300	13.72%	107.0%
New Plymouth District	69,500	1.76%	83,395	1.97%	1,503,579	2.52%	68,400	1.75%	100.0%
Palmerston North City	79,000	2.00%	73,834	1.75%	856,176	1.43%	75,200	5.05%	100.0%
Rodney District	91,500	2.31%	101,824	2.41%	1,343,436	2.26%	78,500	16.56%	109.8%
Hastings District	71,800	1.82%	63,825	1.51%	1,045,431	1.75%	69,600	3.16%	100.0%
Whangarei District	73,300	1.85%	91,584	2.17%	943,140	1.58%	70,000	4.71%	100.0%
Rotorua District	67,500	1.71%	75,820	1.79%	623,055	1.04%	66,900	0.90%	100.0%
Far North District	68,200	1.47%	70,381	1.67%	1,235,388	2.07%	56,400	3.19%	100.0%
Napier City	56,600	1.43%	59,932	1.42%	903,694	1.51%	55,200	2.54%	100.0%
Southland District	29,400	0.74%	47,068	1.11%	1,034,937	1.73%	29,400	0.00%	100.0%
Franklin District	58,500	1.48%	48,757	1.15%	816,326	1.37%	53,300	9.76%	103.0%
Invercargill City	50,800	1.28%	55,707	1.32%	565,450	0.95%	51,100	-0.59%	100.8%
Porirua City	50,700	1.28%	48,046	1.09%	506,743	0.85%	49,500	2.42%	100.0%
Kapiti Coast District	47,800	1.21%	34,545	0.82%	413,481	0.69%	43,600	9.63%	102.9%
Wanganui District	43,200	1.09%	50,549	1.20%	633,966	1.06%	44,400	-2.70%	102.7%
Timaru District	42,900	1.08%	46,272	1.10%	641,554	1.07%	42,800	0.23%	100.0%
Waipa District	42,700	1.08%	38,262	0.91%	603,455	1.01%	41,400	3.14%	100.0%
Waikato District	42,800	1.08%	45,872	1.09%	760,107	1.27%	41,300	3.63%	100.0%
Taupo District	34,100	0.86%	49,317	1.17%	864,956	1.45%	32,500	4.92%	100.0%
Thames-Coromandel District	26,800	0.68%	47,943	1.13%	699,327	1.17%	25,800	3.88%	100.0%
Western Bay of Plenty	42,900	1.08%	43,177	1.02%	647,887	1.08%	39,300	9.16%	102.4%
Queenstown-Lakes District	24,800	0.63%	45,686	1.08%	582,115	0.97%	17,850	38.94%	132.2%
Waimakariri District	43,100	1.09%	36,393	0.86%	663,595	1.11%	37,900	13.72%	107.0%
Whakatane District	33,900	0.86%	41,426	0.98%	355,441	0.60%	34,000	-0.29%	100.3%
South Taranaki District	27,100	0.69%	32,844	0.77%	501,604	0.84%	26,400	-4.58%	104.6%
Selwyn District	32,700	0.83%	31,300	0.74%	654,113	1.10%	28,300	15.55%	108.8%
Papakura District	43,900	1.11%	25,497	0.60%	371,181	0.62%	42,300	3.78%	100.0%
Matamata - Piako District	30,300	0.77%	28,937	0.69%	390,479	0.65%	30,300	0.00%	100.0%
Upper Hutt City	38,000	0.96%	29,578	0.70%	315,948	0.53%	37,700	0.80%	100.0%
Manawatu District	28,500	0.72%	30,183	0.71%	447,431	0.75%	28,200	1.06%	100.0%
Taranua District	17,450	0.44%	25,460	0.80%	667,159	1.12%	18,350	-4.90%	104.9%
Ashburton District	27,200	0.69%	24,329	0.58%	408,715	0.68%	26,000	4.62%	100.0%
Waitaki District	19,700	0.50%	26,598	0.68%	566,932	0.95%	20,500	-3.90%	103.9%
Horowhenua District	30,500	0.77%	21,129	0.50%	324,771	0.54%	30,600	-0.33%	100.3%

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REMUNERATION AUTHORITY - FUNDING FORMULAE AND FACTORS

District / City Council	---Population Calc---		---Expenses Calc---		--Gross Assets Calc--		---Rate of Change Calcs---		Change Factor
	Population 2005/06	Funding Weighting	Expenses (000)'s data entry	Funding Weighting	Assets (000)'s data entry	Funding Weighting	Population 2000/01	% of Change	
	12						7		
Masterton District	23,200	0.59%	22,619	0.54%	389,779	0.65%	23,200	0.00%	100.0%
Central Otago District	16,250	0.39%	20,332	0.48%	439,446	0.74%	14,750	3.39%	100.0%
Hauraki District	16,650	0.42%	25,475	0.60%	319,427	0.53%	17,250	-3.48%	103.5%
Rangitikei District	14,360	0.36%	26,375	0.62%	432,762	0.72%	15,500	-7.42%	107.4%
Clutha District	17,050	0.43%	25,973	0.61%	771,809	1.28%	17,550	-2.85%	102.8%
Ruapehu District	12,650	0.32%	19,989	0.47%	262,200	0.44%	15,000	-15.67%	115.7%
Kaipara District	18,050	0.46%	27,617	0.65%	296,729	0.50%	17,950	0.56%	100.0%
South Waikato District	22,300	0.56%	19,271	0.46%	223,065	0.37%	24,200	-7.85%	107.9%
Central Hawkes Bay	13,200	0.33%	17,218	0.41%	547,895	0.92%	13,200	0.00%	100.0%
Westland District	7,860	0.20%	11,246	0.27%	235,984	0.40%	7,990	-1.63%	101.6%
Hurunui District	11,000	0.28%	19,283	0.46%	254,370	0.43%	10,150	8.37%	101.6%
Waikato District	9,540	0.24%	15,906	0.38%	259,450	0.43%	9,780	-2.45%	102.5%
Buller District	9,570	0.24%	16,926	0.40%	204,723	0.34%	9,860	-2.94%	102.9%
Grey District	13,100	0.33%	17,773	0.42%	207,414	0.35%	13,200	-0.76%	100.8%
Gore District	12,250	0.31%	11,853	0.28%	238,426	0.40%	12,750	-3.92%	103.9%
Waimata District	6,990	0.18%	9,396	0.22%	275,776	0.46%	7,220	-3.19%	103.2%
Waioa District	8,230	0.21%	16,302	0.39%	169,805	0.28%	9,280	-11.12%	111.1%
Banks Peninsula District	-			0.00%		0.00%	-		
South Wairarapa District	8,810	0.22%	11,609	0.27%	173,667	0.29%	8,940	-1.45%	101.5%
Otorohanga District	9,450	0.24%	10,761	0.25%	180,099	0.30%	9,590	-1.46%	101.5%
Opoitiki District	9,400	0.24%	7,312	0.17%	129,938	0.22%	9,540	-1.47%	101.5%
Stratford District	8,460	0.21%	9,271	0.22%	203,145	0.34%	9,110	-7.14%	107.1%
Mackenzie District	3,710	0.09%	7,876	0.19%	101,948	0.17%	3,790	-2.11%	102.1%
Carterton District	7,210	0.18%	7,365	0.17%	105,755	0.18%	7,000	3.00%	100.0%
Kawerau District	6,420	0.16%	6,721	0.16%	43,365	0.07%	7,290	-11.93%	111.9%
TOTALS	3,954,150	100.00%	4,224,256	100.00%	59,727,864	100.00%	3,704,010	6.75%	

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REMUNERATION AUTHORITY - FUNDING FORMULAE AND FACTORS - SUMMARY

District / City Council	Population	Expenses	Assets	Change Factor	Total Points	Indicative Pool	Mayor's Salary
Auckland City	430,700	305,591	158,233	104.02%	930,515	1,742,221	163,418
Christchurch City	360,500	203,696	116,940	100.78%	686,460	1,581,844	156,590
Manukau City	339,400	193,008	78,303	107.06%	653,845	1,555,297	155,523
Wellington City	188,500	176,894	68,966	103.42%	449,199	1,303,396	146,178
North Shore City	215,300	133,509	68,439	104.11%	434,404	1,280,870	145,366
Waikare City	194,700	102,913	48,579	103.75%	359,161	1,141,883	138,210
Dunedin City	122,900	90,873	54,744	100.00%	268,516	941,093	123,679
Hamilton City	133,700	76,516	35,342	105.13%	258,153	915,176	121,425
Hutt City	100,400	57,452	16,878	100.00%	174,730	688,628	102,378
Tauranga City	106,100	58,565	37,158	106.97%	215,883	809,460	112,232
New Plymouth District	69,600	51,521	33,844	100.00%	154,965	628,452	97,538
Palmerston North City	79,000	45,615	19,272	100.00%	143,886	594,720	94,824
Rodney District	91,500	62,907	30,239	109.81%	202,755	773,954	109,242
Hastings District	71,800	39,431	23,532	100.00%	134,763	566,942	92,590
Whangarei District	73,300	56,580	21,229	100.00%	151,110	616,713	96,593
Rotorua District	67,500	46,841	14,024	100.00%	128,366	547,466	91,023
Far North District	58,200	43,481	27,807	100.00%	129,489	550,884	91,298
Napier City	56,800	37,026	20,341	100.00%	113,967	503,627	87,496
Southland District	29,400	29,079	23,295	100.00%	81,774	397,202	77,818
Franklin District	58,500	30,122	18,375	103.00%	110,210	492,187	86,576
Invercargill City	50,800	34,416	12,728	100.59%	98,518	454,565	83,280
Porirua City	50,700	28,447	11,406	100.00%	90,553	427,279	80,682
Tairāpiti Coast District	47,800	21,342	9,307	102.88%	80,708	393,551	77,470
Tanganui District	43,200	31,229	14,270	102.70%	91,096	429,139	80,859
Timaru District	42,900	28,587	14,441	100.00%	85,927	411,432	79,173
Waipa District	42,700	23,638	13,583	100.00%	79,921	390,856	77,214
Waikato District	42,800	28,340	17,109	100.00%	88,249	419,384	79,930
Taupo District	34,100	30,468	19,469	100.00%	84,037	404,956	78,556
Thames-Coromandel District	26,800	29,619	15,741	100.00%	72,160	364,269	74,682
Western Bay of Plenty	42,900	26,675	14,583	102.41%	86,184	412,309	79,257
Queenstown-Lakes District	24,800	28,225	13,103	132.18%	87,409	416,507	79,656
Waimakariri District	43,100	22,484	14,937	106.97%	86,130	412,126	79,239
Whakatane District	33,900	25,593	8,001	100.29%	67,692	348,962	73,224
South Taranaki District	27,100	20,167	11,291	104.58%	61,238	326,853	71,119
Selwyn District	32,700	19,337	14,723	108.79%	72,632	365,884	74,836
Papakura District	43,900	15,752	8,355	100.00%	68,007	350,040	73,327
Matamata - Piako District	30,300	17,877	8,789	100.00%	56,967	312,219	69,726
Upper Hutt City	38,000	18,273	7,112	100.00%	63,385	334,206	71,819
Manawatu District	28,500	18,647	10,071	100.00%	57,218	313,081	69,808
Taranua District	17,450	15,729	15,017	104.90%	50,560	290,200	67,563
Ashburton District	27,200	15,030	9,200	100.00%	51,430	293,253	67,920
Waikati District	19,700	17,668	12,761	103.90%	52,085	295,496	68,133
Horowhenua District	30,500	13,053	7,310	100.33%	51,030	291,882	67,789
Masteron District	23,200	13,974	8,774	100.00%	45,947	273,644	65,294
Central Otago District	15,250	12,561	9,891	100.00%	37,703	244,049	61,238
Hauraki District	16,650	15,738	7,190	103.48%	40,955	256,724	62,838
Rangitikei District	14,350	16,294	9,741	107.42%	43,382	264,434	64,031
Clutha District	17,050	16,046	17,373	102.85%	51,907	294,885	68,075
Ruapehu District	12,650	12,349	5,902	115.67%	35,742	237,013	60,273
Kaipara District	18,050	17,062	6,679	100.00%	41,791	258,724	63,249
South Waikato District	22,300	11,906	5,021	107.85%	42,306	260,574	63,502
Central Hawkes Bay	13,200	10,637	12,333	100.00%	36,170	238,548	60,483
Westland District	7,860	6,948	5,312	101.63%	20,447	182,112	52,748
Hurunui District	11,000	11,913	5,726	101.62%	29,103	213,182	57,007
Waitomo District	9,540	9,827	5,840	102.45%	25,825	201,417	55,394
Butler District	9,570	10,457	4,608	102.94%	25,360	199,746	55,165
Grey District	13,100	10,980	4,669	100.76%	28,967	212,693	56,940
Gore District	12,250	7,323	5,367	103.92%	25,918	201,748	55,440
Waimate District	6,990	5,805	6,207	103.19%	19,608	179,100	52,336
Wairoa District	8,230	10,071	3,822	111.12%	24,584	196,963	54,784
				0.00%			
South Wairarapa District	8,810	7,172	3,909	101.45%	20,180	181,155	52,617
Otorohanga District	9,450	6,648	4,054	101.46%	20,446	182,110	52,748
Opoitiki District	9,400	4,517	2,925	101.47%	17,089	169,256	50,828
Stratford District	8,460	5,728	4,573	107.14%	20,099	180,863	52,577
Mackenzie District	3,710	4,866	2,295	102.11%	11,109	143,964	46,617
Carterton District	7,210	4,550	2,380	100.00%	14,141	156,804	48,755
Kawerau District	6,420	4,152	976	111.93%	12,927	151,677	47,902
TOTALS	3,954,150	2,609,739	1,344,411		8,156,982	31,170,845	5,376,104

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DISTRICT/CITY COUNCILS

Variables

Weightings		Points
Population	50.0%	3,954,150
Expenses	33.0%	2,609,739
Assets Gross	17.0%	1,344,411
	100%	7,908,300

X and Y for Change Factor	
Change factor weighting for larger than	100%
Change factor weighting for negatives	100%

Indicative Pool - Points to remuneration

Points	Rate	Max
Flat Base		97,091
18,360	4.223	77,531
51,000	3.589	183,058
103,836	3.426	364,061
207,672	3.045	680,204
311,508	2.501	939,893
415,344	1.957	1,143,128
519,180	1.523	1,301,230
623,016	1.158	1,421,483
726,852	0.814	1,506,000
830,688	0.705	1,579,226
934,524	0.544	1,635,680
1,038,360	0.544	1,692,134

Mayor's Salary - Points to remuneration

Points	Rate	Max
Flat Base		38,813
18,360	0.703	12,909
51,000	0.492	25,090
103,836	0.326	42,325
207,672	0.245	67,757
311,508	0.217	90,339
415,344	0.109	101,630
519,180	0.055	107,330
623,016	0.043	111,824
726,852	0.033	115,223
830,688	0.033	118,621
934,524	0.021	120,813
1,038,360	0.021	123,006

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Revised Elected Members Remuneration 2007

Total Remuneration Pool	1,141,883
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Mayor's Salary	138,210
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Details	Number	Current Salary	Percentage Increase	Change	Revised Salary	Total	Total from Pool
<i>Council</i>							
Mayor	1	132,151	(Fixed)	5,694	138,210	138,210	138,210
Deputy Mayor	1	73,087	6.0740000%	4,440	77,527	77,527	77,527
<i>Standing Committees</i>							
Chair City Development	1	69,765	6.0740000%	4,238	74,003	74,003	74,003
Chair Planning & Regulatory	1	69,765	6.0740000%	4,238	74,003	74,003	74,003
Chair Finance & Op Performance	1	69,765	6.0740000%	4,238	74,003	74,003	74,003
<i>Committees</i>							
Chair Hearings	1	59,300	6.0740000%	3,602	62,902	62,902	62,902
<i>Minor Committees</i>							
Chair Projects Special	1	59,300	6.0740000%	3,602	62,902	62,902	62,902
Chair Arts Special	1	59,300	6.0740000%	3,602	62,902	62,902	62,902
Chair Emergency Services		0			0	0	0
Chair Performance Review		0			0	0	0
Chair Tenders		0			0	0	0
Chair LTCCP & Annual Plan		0			0	0	0
Other Councillors	7	48,012	6.0740000%	2,916	50,928	356,498	356,498
<i>Massey Community Board</i>							
Chair	1	22,591	6.0740000%	1,372	23,963	23,963	11,982
Members	5	11,628	6.0740000%	706	12,334	61,671	30,836
<i>Waitakere Community Board</i>							

Revised Elected Members Remuneration 2007

Total Remuneration Pool	1,141,883
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Mayor's Salary	138,210
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Chair	1	22,591	6.0740000%	1,372	23,963	23,963	11,982
Members	5	11,628	6.0740000%	706	12,334	61,671	30,836

Henderson Community Board

Chair	1	22,591	6.0740000%	1,372	23,963	23,963	11,982
Members	4	11,628	6.0740000%	706	12,334	49,337	24,669

New Lynn Community Board

Chair	1	22,591	6.0740000%	1,372	23,963	23,963	11,982
Members	4	11,628	6.0740000%	706	12,334	49,337	24,669

Total from Pool						1,300,818	1,141,883
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Elected Members Remuneration

Total Remuneration Pool 1,141,883

Yellow Cells are Fixed Data

Mayor's Salary 138,210

Green Cells are Variables

Details	Percentage Increase on Standing Committees	Number	Percentage of Mayor's Gross Salary	Percentage of Standing Committee Chairs	Salary	Current	Change	Total	Total from Pool
Council									
Mayor		1	100.000%		138,210	132,151	6,059	138,210	138,210
Deputy Mayor	10.000%	1	55.000%		76,016	69,551	6,465	76,016	76,016
Standing Committees									
Chair City Development		1	52.500%		72,560	66,390	6,170	72,560	72,560
Chair Planning & Regulatory		1	52.500%		72,560	66,390	6,170	72,560	72,560
Chair Finance & Policy		1	52.500%		72,560	66,390	6,170	72,560	72,560
Committees									
Chair Hearings		1		85.000%	61,676	56,431	5,245	61,676	61,676
Minor Committees									
Chair Projects Special		1		85.000%	61,676	56,431	5,245	61,676	61,676
Chair Arts Special		1		85.000%	61,676	56,431	5,245	61,676	61,676
Chair Emergency Services				75.000%	0			0	0
Chair Performance Review				75.000%	0			0	0
Chair Tenders				75.000%	0			0	0
Chair LTCCP & Annual Plan				85.000%	0			0	0
Other Councillors		7			52,731	45,689	7,042	369,120	369,120
Massey Community Board									
Chair		1	17.000%		23,496	21,498	1,998	23,496	11,748
Members		5	8.750%		12,093	11,065	1,028	60,465	30,233

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Waitakere Community Board

Chair	1	17.000%	23,496	21,498	1,998	23,496	11,748
Members	5	8.750%	12,093	11,065	1,028	60,465	30,233

Henderson Community Board

Chair	1	17.000%	23,496	21,498	1,998	23,496	11,748
Members	4	8.750%	12,093	11,065	1,028	48,372	24,186

New Lynn Community Board

Chair	1	17.000%	23,496	21,498	1,998	23,496	11,748
Members	4	8.750%	12,093	11,065	1,028	48,372	24,186

Total from Pool	37					1,297,712	1,141,883
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LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMISSION

Determination

of representation arrangements to apply for
the election of the Waitakere City Council
to be held on 13 October 2007

Background

1. The Waitakere City Council ("the Council") elected at the 2004 local election comprises 14 councillors and the mayor. The 14 councillors were elected as follows:

Wards	Population*	Councillors	Population per councillor	Deviation from city average population per councillor	Percentage deviation from city average population per councillor
Massey	58,100	4	14,525	+817.86	+5.97
Henderson	45,300	3	15,100	+1,392.86	+10.16
New Lynn	55,400	4	13,850	+142.86	+1.04
Waitakere	33,100	3	11,033	-2,674.14	-19.51
TOTALS	191,900	14	13,707.14		

* Note: These figures are 2005 population estimates

2. Waitakere City has a community board for each of the four existing wards – Massey, Henderson, New Lynn and Waitakere. None of these are subdivided for electoral purposes. The membership of each board is as follows:
 - Massey – 6 elected members and 3 appointed members;
 - Henderson – 5 elected members and 2 appointed members;
 - New Lynn – 5 elected members and 2 appointed members; and
 - Waitakere – 6 elected members and 3 appointed members.
3. The Council undertook an informal public feedback/information process on 3 options for a ward structure prior to its formal review of representation arrangements for the city and its communities under sections 19H and 19J of the Local Electoral Act 2001 ("the Act").
4. On 15 March 2006 it resolved initial proposed representation arrangements to apply for the 2007 local election. These were publicly notified on 24 March 2006.

All

5. The Council's initial proposal was as follows:
- (a) the city be divided into 3 wards;
 - (b) the council comprise a mayor and 14 councillors elected as follows:

Wards	Population*	Councillors	Population per councillor	Deviation from city average population per councillor	Percentage deviation from city average population per councillor
Northern	54,100	4	13,525	182	-1.33
Central	72,200	5	14,440	733	+5.35
Southern	65,600	5	13,120	587	-4.28
TOTALS	191,900	14	13,707		

* Note: These are 2005 population estimates

- (c) community boards be established with boundaries aligned with those for each of the 3 wards;
 - (d) each community board comprise 6 elected members and 3 appointed members; and
 - (e) the communities not be subdivided for electoral purposes.
6. The Council received 510 submissions on time and 103 late submissions on its initial proposal. An analysis of the submissions by the Council showed:
- 234 (47%) in support of the Council's 3-ward proposal; and
 - 265 (52%) opposed, with the vast majority favouring a 4-ward model similar to the current structure.
7. Following consideration of the submissions, the Council, on 24 May 2006, changed its initial proposal. Its final proposal was publicly notified on 7 June 2006, as follows:
- (a) the city be divided into 4 wards (modified from original 4-ward model);
 - (b) the council comprise a mayor and 14 councillors elected as follows:

Wards	Population*	Councillors	Population per councillor	Deviation from city average population per councillor	Percentage deviation from city average population per councillor
Massey	37,400	3	12,467	-1,240	-9.04
Henderson	73,300	5	14,660	+953	+6.95
New Lynn	66,800	5	13,360	-347	-2.53
Waitakere	14,400	1	14,400	+693	+5.05
TOTALS	191,900	14	13,707		

* Note: These figures are 2005 population estimates

- (c) community boards be retained for each of the 4 wards;
- (d) the Massey, Henderson and New Lynn Community Boards each consist of 5 elected members and 2 appointed members, and the Waitakere Community Board consist of 6 elected members and 1 appointed member; and
- (e) the communities not be subdivided for electoral purposes.

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8. A total of 220 objections, including 120 on a standard form, were received against the Council's proposal. The main concerns of the objectors related to:
- exclusion of Laingholm and other areas including (part of) Titirangi from the proposed Waitakere Ward (201 objections);
 - a need for a minimum of two councillors to represent the Waitakere Ward given the size and geography of the ward;
 - the location of boundaries for the Massey, Henderson and New Lynn Wards; and
 - the number and membership of community boards.

Hearing

9. The Commission met with the Council, objectors and submitters supporting the Council's initial 3-ward proposal who had expressed a desire to be heard, at a hearing held in the Waitakere City Council Chambers on 19 September 2006. The Council was represented by Councillor Janet Clews and the Council's Democracy and Support Services Manager Darryl Griffin. The objectors and submitters who appeared at the hearing were: Councillor Warren Flaunty, the Waitakere Ranges Protection Society, John Edgar, Kath Dewar, Swanson Residents and Ratepayers Association, Piha Residents and Ratepayers Association, Elizabeth Francke, Henderson Community Board, Denise Yates, Patricia La Roche, Gary Marshall, Geoff Webster, New Lynn Community Board, Anne Grace, Greg Presland, Bryan Trenwith, Jo Quartermass, Waitakere Community Board, Paul Walbran, Massey Community Board, Sandra Coney, Councillor Linda Cooper, John Newick, Eanna Doyle, Massey and Birdwood Settlers Association, Ron Watson, Kubi Witten-Hannah and Jan O'Connor.

Matters raised in objections and at the hearing

10. The main arguments presented in support of alteration of boundaries for the proposed Waitakere Ward were:
- the non-urban area of the city is a distinct community of interest with different interests and needs from the urban area;
 - Laingholm is currently in the non-urban Waitakere Ward reflecting the character of the area and it has little in common with the urban New Lynn Ward;
 - Titirangi has more in common with the 'bush-living' areas such as Laingholm;
 - the Waitakere Ranges are a unique feature of West Auckland attracting thousands of visitors every year and this creates particular issues which require full understanding by locally elected representatives;
 - the Waitakere Ward should, as far as practicable, reflect the area defined in the Waitakere Ranges Heritage Area Bill presently before Parliament;
 - one councillor would not be able to provide effective representation for the Waitakere Ward given its size and geography and the workload would be unreasonable.

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11. Other arguments presented included:
- the boundary between the Waitakere and New Lynn Wards should be redrawn so as to: not split Parrs Park from Oratia, locate the 'Zodiac' area in Waitakere Ward and avoid Glengarry Road being crossed four times by the boundary;
 - the Ranui area being retained in the Massey Ward or possibly moved to the Waitakere Ward;
 - support for community boards with added delegations;
 - increased membership (of 6) for the Massey Community Board;
 - a reduction in the number of community boards to one urban board and one rural board;
 - removal of community boards.
12. The New Lynn Community Board, as a submitter in support of the Council's initial proposal for a 3-ward model, was invited to appear at the hearing. Arguments presented in support of the 3-ward model included:
- mixing urban and non-urban areas would help unify the city;
 - urban councillors would become more involved in the non-urban areas and "buy into" stewardship of the Ranges;
 - would result in more balanced decision-making;
 - representation is a different issue from management of, for example, the Ranges;
 - wards would all have a main centre and reflect natural transport routes to the west;
 - Titirangi is better suited to a mixed southern ward than a non-urban ward;
 - the option is more sustainable for the future.
13. The main arguments presented against a 3-ward model were:
- wards would be artificial and wouldn't reflect communities of interest;
 - would combine very different life styles and needs;
 - the wards would be too big;
 - would increase the cost of standing for election;
 - wouldn't provide adequate representation for the non-urban area;
 - would dilute the principles of "eco city" and the West Coast Plan;
 - would put pressure on volunteer groups to protect the Ranges.

Matters for Determination

14. The statutory provisions in respect of objections are contained in sections 19R, 19H and 19J of the Act.

19R. Commission to determine appeals and objections

(1) The Commission must—

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- (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.

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- (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.*

Procedural Issue

15. Several objectors suggested that if the non-urban area of the city was not to be effectively represented, consideration should be given to transferring this area to the more rural Rodney District. One of these objectors, Bryan Trenwith, raised this issue at the hearing. Mr Trenwith said he believed the Council's proposal did not meet the requirements for fair and effective representation of the rural community, which was well delineated in the Waitakere Ranges Heritage Area Bill presently before Parliament. He said the problem lay with the original boundaries of Waitakere City and Rodney District. Mr Trenwith proposed that the Commission refer the matter of the boundaries of the two territorial authorities to the Minister of Local Government for consideration.

A16

16. The Commission has noted the issue raised by Mr Trenwith. It notes also that under the Local Government Act 2002 (LGA) reorganisation proposals involving boundary alterations may be initiated in one of three ways:
 - (a) by an affected local authority; or
 - (b) by the Minister of Local Government; or
 - (c) by a petition signed by at least 10% of the electors of the area subject to the proposed reorganisation.
17. While the Commission is empowered, by another provision of the LGA, to report to the Minister on any matter relating to a local authority or local government, it considers that reorganisation proposals are generally best initiated at the local level. The Commission considers that either one of the councils concerned or 10% of electors would be in a better position, at this stage, to ascertain the appropriateness and level of support for a boundary alteration in the area.

Consideration by the Commission

Effective representation of communities of interest

18. The steps in the representation review process are not statutorily prescribed. The Commission believes, however, that the following process for determining representation arrangements will achieve a robust outcome that is in accordance with the statutory criteria:
 - (a) identify the city's communities of interest;
 - (b) determine the best means of providing effective representation for the communities of interest; and
 - (c) determine fair representation of electors for the city.
19. The Act does not define either 'effective representation' or 'communities of interest'. The Commission considers, however, that achieving effective representation for communities of interest includes determining which, if any, communities of interest, or groupings of communities of interest, require separate ward representation.
20. The Commission acknowledges the work the Council undertook, given this was the first review undertaken under this legislation, to confirm the city's communities of interest. This work identified possible approaches as including communities of interest based on water catchments, transport links, land use, and community facilities.
21. Based on these options, the Council initially proposed a structure of 3 wards as east-west bands across the city integrating the urban and non-urban areas of the city reflecting factors of population, land use, transport links and landscape. In response to both an informal public feedback/information process and the Council's initial representation proposal, there was strong community support instead for a 4-ward model reflecting existing land use patterns and in particular the need for separate representation to reflect the distinction between the urban and non-urban areas of the city.
22. After considering the community feedback, the Council changed its final proposal to a modified 4-ward model recognising, by reinstatement of a

A17

Waitakere Ward, the non-urban area of the city as a separate community of interest. While not agreeing with the Council's proposed boundaries for the Waitakere Ward, the bulk of objectors to the Council's final proposal strongly supported a 4-ward land-use based model.

23. The Commission agrees in the first instance that a ward system for Waitakere City is appropriate given the size and geography of the city, the existence of different communities within the city, and general acceptance of the traditional use of wards reflecting recognised communities of Massey, Henderson, New Lynn and the non-urban Waitakere area.
24. Many objectors to the Council's final proposal referred variously to the special character and common interests of the rural, forested and coastal areas of the city as distinctive from, and with different needs to, the urban areas. In this regard, the Commission notes the Council's own long-term council community plan (p. 19) describes the Waitakere Ranges as "what makes us uniquely West Auckland". One objector submitted that this area, more than any other, helps define the essence of Waitakere's 'eco city' a vision and guide for decision-making in the city.
25. The Commission's 'Guidelines to assist local authorities in undertaking representation reviews' notes that defining characteristics of communities of interest include "a sense of community identity and belonging". It is clear to the Commission that many residents have a strong sense of identity with and belonging to the Waitakere Ranges area of the city and a commitment to this area. This is reflected, for example, in the number of community organisations and volunteers working to protect and enhance the character of the non-urban area of the city and the interests of the residents of this area.
26. This sense of identity and commitment was demonstrated in the development of the West Coast Plan, a community initiative, supported by the Council, reflecting residents' wishes for the future management of the west coast and Waitakere Ranges. The plan acknowledges the ecological, social and demographic similarities of the communities of this area.
27. The Commission considers accordingly that retention of a 4-ward model, including a non-urban Waitakere Ward reflecting perhaps the single biggest community of interest in the city, is appropriate.
28. The Commission believes that 4 wards can also support the Council's policies in relation to future planning for the city. The long-term council community plan identifies the following planning focuses relating to the current 4 ward areas:
 - a central hub for the city based on Henderson;
 - two town centres providing significant community hubs based on New Lynn and Massey North/Westgate; and
 - a network of rural and coastal villages reflecting the unique qualities of the Waitakere Ranges.
29. Given the decision to retain a 4-ward model, the Commission is then required to consider the appropriate boundaries for these wards. The bulk of the objections related to the Waitakere Ward and its proposed boundaries.

A18

30. The Commission recognises the reasoning of the Council in including the Laingholm and Titirangi areas in the proposed urban New Lynn Ward was to achieve consistency with the 'metropolitan urban limit' line designed to contain growth and stop sprawling development.
31. The Commission heard, however, that Laingholm is physically separated from the urban area, and that both the catchment of Laingholm School and circulation area for the *Laingholm Roundabout*, a monthly community newspaper, suggested its community of interest lay more appropriately with the non-urban area. While Titirangi has always been in the urban New Lynn Ward, the Commission heard from a number of objectors that many residents identified more with the non-urban area given its 'bush-living' character in common with Laingholm.
32. The Commission acknowledges inclusion of the more urban-focussed Titirangi area in the Waitakere Ward will not be supported by all. It believes, however, that, on balance, Titirangi does have a commonality of interest with bush-living areas such as Laingholm that justifies its inclusion in the Waitakere Ward.
33. The Commission also heard that there had been careful consideration and extensive consultation on the boundaries for the heritage area identified in the Waitakere Ranges Heritage Area Bill. The purpose of this Bill is "to recognise the national, regional and local importance of the Waitakere Ranges, foothills and coastal areas and to promote the protection and enhancement of its heritage features for present and future generations".
34. The Council submitted that the Waitakere Ranges Heritage Area Bill was about environmental protection and not about governance. The Commission acknowledges this point but believes, given the level of community identification with the purpose of the Bill, the heritage area may still be seen as an appropriate basis for identifying boundaries for the Waitakere Ward reflecting residents' sense of identity with and belonging to the area. The Commission notes that a perfect match between the heritage area and a Waitakere Ward cannot be achieved as the former does not align with meshblocks in a number of areas. It also considers that the coastal area leading up to Green Bay, though in the heritage area, would, on community of interest grounds, be best placed in the New Lynn Ward.
35. Most objectors proposing closer alignment of the boundaries of the Waitakere Ward with the Ranges heritage area also saw this as a means to increase representation for the Waitakere Ward. They saw the proposal for one councillor to represent this ward as inadequate and failing to meet the statutory requirement for effective representation for communities of interest. This argument was based on:
 - the size of the ward (being approximately two thirds of the city) and, as a result, the distances one representative would have to travel to meet constituents and local groups;
 - the impact of the size of the ward being exacerbated by roading patterns and the remoteness of the dispersed communities in the ward;
 - the pressure placed on one councillor would be further exacerbated by the large number of community organisations in the ward (13) with which contact needs to be maintained;

A19

- the range and nature of the issues to be dealt with in the ward, described by some as an "ecological island", and the tension between environmental protection and enhancement of the Ranges and development pressures which would be hard for one councillor to effectively represent; and
 - the difficulty of providing effective cover for a single councillor in times of absence (through holiday or sickness).
36. The Commission heard certain provisions of the Waitakere Ranges Heritage Area Bill would also place particular demands on a single Waitakere Ward councillor. These included the provision for local area management plans. These plans are a tool for the Council, in consultation with the local community, to clearly identify and provide for the qualities that make up the area's present and desired future amenity, aesthetic, natural and cultural character. The areas concerned were seen by some to require effective representation by a local councillor who was familiar with the area. This would be easier to achieve with two councillors as opposed to one.
 37. The Commission agrees that it would be difficult for one councillor to provide effective representation for the Waitakere Ward given the nature of the ward and other factors outlined above. It therefore agrees with the objectors seeking an adjustment to the boundary between the Waitakere and New Lynn Wards, aligning the former more closely with the heritage area, and thereby providing for a second councillor to represent the Waitakere Ward. This means some areas, which are more urban in nature, need to be included in the Waitakere Ward. This is necessary in order to achieve fair representation for the electors of both Waitakere and New Lynn Wards.
 38. The Commission did receive and hear other objections relating to boundary issues. In particular there were suggested changes to the boundary between the Waitakere and New Lynn Wards in the area of Parr's Park and Oratia, the so-called 'Zodiac' area, and Glengarry Road which some believe should be more clearly in one ward or the other.
 39. The Council advised that the areas concerned were generally urban in nature, outside the Ranges heritage area, or located as a result of the layout of particular meshblocks. Accordingly the Commission believes any redrawing of boundaries in these areas, while perhaps addressing concerns of some objectors, is likely to cause further perceived inconsistencies.
 40. The Commission did hear submissions from both the Massey Community Board and the Massey and Birdwood Settlers Association that the Ranui area would be more appropriately located in the Massey Ward rather than in the Henderson Ward as proposed by the Council. The Commission notes that Ranui is currently in the Massey Ward and that it was proposed to be in the Northern Ward along with the rest of the Massey Ward, in the 3-ward structure whereas Lincoln was to be in the proposed Central Ward.
 41. The Commission also notes the future growth anticipated in the Massey Ward including the planned development of Westgate as a new town centre serving particularly the residents of Massey and West Harbour. Based on this future growth, the Commission considers that representation for Massey equal to that for the Henderson and New Lynn Wards would be appropriate.

A20

42. Inclusion of Ranui, with an extended area to the south and four additional meshblocks north of Universal Drive, all presently in the Massey Ward, along with an adjustment between the Henderson and New Lynn Wards, will allow for equal representation between the three urban wards. The further required adjustment between the Henderson and New Lynn Wards is the inclusion of an extended area of Glendene in the New Lynn Ward.

Fair representation of electors

43. A number of objectors sought “an exemption” from the statutory requirement for fair representation of electors measured in terms of the maximum +/-10 percent variance in the ratio of population to councillors. The Commission points out that the only provision for an exception to the +/-10 percent rule for territorial authorities is in respect of island or isolated communities. While particular communities within the Waitakere Ward may be seen as physically remote or isolated from other communities, the Commission does not consider that the Waitakere Ward itself may be seen as an isolated community. It therefore believes that the +/-10 percent rule must apply for all wards in the city.
44. Apart from proposals to add a further member for the Waitakere Ward, the Commission heard no submissions seeking a change to the Council proposal to retain the present number of councillors of 14. Accordingly the Commission has decided that, in accordance with the requirement for fair representation for electors in all wards, there shall continue to be a total of 14 councillors elected from 4 wards, modified as described above, as follows:
- Massey Ward: 4 councillors;
 - Henderson Ward: 4 councillors;
 - New Lynn Ward: 4 councillors;
 - Waitakere Ward: 2 councillors.

Communities and community boards

45. The Commission is also required to determine whether there should be communities and community boards in the city and, if so, the nature of those communities and the structure of the boards.
46. The Commission is aware that a structure of community boards to match the current 4 wards has been in place in Waitakere City since its formation in 1989. Relatively few objections addressed the issue of community boards and the Commission takes this as a general level of support for their continuation. The Council consistently proposed a structure of boards matching that for the city’s wards throughout the review. One objection did propose removal of all boards and another proposed the reduction of the number of boards to two, namely a rural board and an urban board. The Commission, on the other hand, heard a number of objectors actively supporting a structure of community boards matching the wards particularly from objectors seeking the retention of a 4-ward structure.
47. The Massey Community Board did propose the number of its elected members be retained at 6, whereas the Council proposed a standard number of 5 elected members for the boards in the 3 urban wards.

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48. Given the level of support, the Commission believes a structure of boards matching the 4-ward structure should continue in the interests of good local government in the city. The Commission considers further that, in light of the more balanced councillor representation in the 4 wards, the number of members for each community board should be the same. Accordingly it considers that the Massey, Henderson, New Lynn and Waitakere Community Boards should each comprise 5 elected members and 2 appointed members.

Commission's Determination

49. Under section 19R of the Local Electoral Act 2001, the Commission determines that for the general election of the Waitakere City Council to be held on 13 October 2007, the following representation arrangements shall apply –

- (1) Waitakere City as delineated on SO Plan 381700 deposited with Land Information New Zealand, shall be divided into four wards;
- (2) Those four wards shall be -
 - (a) the Massey Ward, comprising the area delineated on SO Plan No. 381701 deposited with Land Information New Zealand;
 - (b) the Henderson Ward, comprising the area delineated on SO Plan No. 381702 deposited with Land Information New Zealand;
 - (c) the New Lynn Ward, comprising the area delineated on SO Plan No. 381703 deposited with Land Information New Zealand;
 - (d) the Waitakere Ward, comprising the area delineated on SO Plan 381704 deposited with Land Information New Zealand;
- (3) The Council shall comprise the mayor and 14 councillors, elected as follows -
 - (a) four councillors elected by the electors of the Massey Ward;
 - (b) four councillors elected by the electors of the Henderson Ward;
 - (c) four councillors elected by the electors of the New Lynn Ward; and
 - (d) two councillors elected by the electors of the Waitakere Ward;
- (4) There shall be 4 communities as follows:
 - (a) the Massey Community, comprising the area of the Massey Ward;
 - (b) the Henderson Community, comprising the area of the Henderson Ward;
 - (c) the New Lynn Community, comprising the area of the New Lynn Ward: and
 - (d) the Waitakere Community, comprising the area of the Waitakere Ward;
- (5) The membership of the community board for each community shall be comprised as follows:

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- (a) the Massey Community Board: 5 elected members and 2 members of the Council representing the Massey Ward and appointed to the community board by the Council;
- (b) the Henderson Community Board: 5 elected members and 2 members of the Council representing the Henderson Ward and appointed to the community board by the Council;
- (c) the New Lynn Community Board: 5 elected members and 2 members of the Council representing the New Lynn Ward and appointed to the community board by the Council;
- (d) the Waitakere Community Board: 5 elected members and 2 members of the Council representing the Waitakere Ward and appointed to the community board by the Council.

50. 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.

FOR THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMISSION

Gwen Bull (Commissioner)

Wynne Raymond (Commissioner)

19 December 2006

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