



Overview

Issue 1: What kind of local government arrangements will help Auckland become a successful world-class city?

The Massey Community Board believes a three tier system as follows would best suit the Auckland region

Regional Council –

* The regional Council should be strengthened and its powers should be the same as the old ARA had, and include responsibility for libraries There is no necessity to change the current name of the ARC

- Broadly the ARC would cover issues involving more than one territorial authority
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Councils (Territorial Authorities) -

- Responsibilities similar to current with more devolution of powers to community boards
 - Cover issues that involve more than two community boards
 - Retention of existing territorial local boundaries would be our preference
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Community Boards -

- Control over local issues such as local footpaths, Local halls and parks, community centres, traffic control locally with advice from officers, consent issues like trees
- More than just advocates to Council – advocacy role should be extended to ARC and Government departments with funding to match

Regional decision making

Issue 2: What decisions should be made and implemented at a regional level? By what body or bodies or processes should these decisions be made?

- As submitted above under issue one
 - ARC controlled organisations such as ARTA, Watercare could have appointed Directors, but however elected members must be accountable for decisions made.
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Local decision making

Issue 3: What decisions should be made and implemented at a local level? By what body or bodies or processes should these decisions be made?

Community Boards

- To be responsible for local roads, parks, infrastructure that affects local residents

Local territorial authorities and strengthened Community Boards – to decide broader local issues

Coordination

Issue 4: To what extent should individual local councils follow consistent practices? How do we ensure that decisions made at national, regional, and local government levels are consistent with each other, and that they lead in the same direction?

The ARC should be the lead authority, and be responsible for terminology, consistency, land zoning. The ARC would be the voice of the region to local government
Tree consents could be done by community boards

Accountability

Issue 5: How do we ensure that whatever form of local government is adopted remains properly accountable to the people of Auckland?

- Membership of all three tiers to be by democratically elected people, accountable to the people every three years with the Chairman of each authority to be elected by their respective peers
 - Appointments of members from a community board or council to a regional council committee, and visa versa to be by paid by the authority that they were elected to.
 - Appointments should be made only to committees of the above tier not full Council
 - No need for special appointments, for example business people. Council officers provide the expert impartial advice
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Royal Commission on Auckland Governance

Te Kōmihana a te Karauna mō te Mana Whakahaere o Tāmaki-makau-rau

Do you have any other comments on Auckland's decision-making structures?

Following a meeting of the Community Board which received comments from local people on the issue of local governance, the Massey Community Board supports the current three tier structure rather than the two tier structure suggested by the ARC and the one tier suggested by the Auckland City Council

Elected members must be accessible, with a growing population more members are needed, and by increasing the number of local members would allow for increased opportunities for representation by the various ethnic communities that make up the Auckland region – including representation by Maori. We do not support ethnic or racially elected seats.

Politics is about perceptions, and the Royal Commission was set up in answer to a perception that Auckland is inefficient . How do you compare Auckland with Melbourne, or London. What criteria is used?

Please write a brief summary of the key points in your submission:

- Prefer three tier system as present
 - Clearly defined responsibilities for each tier
 - More power for ARC and Community Boards
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